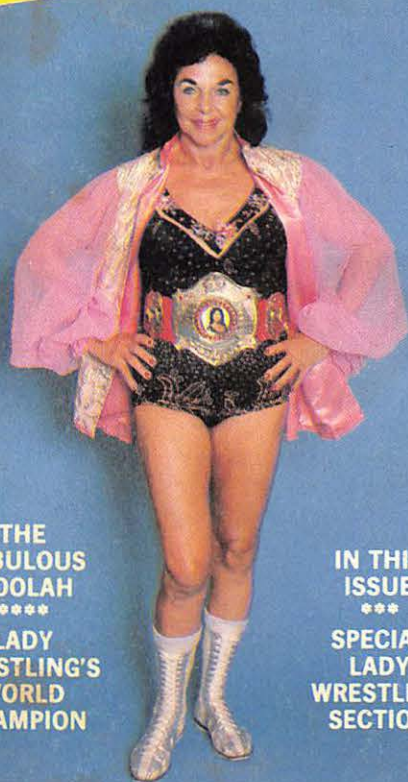


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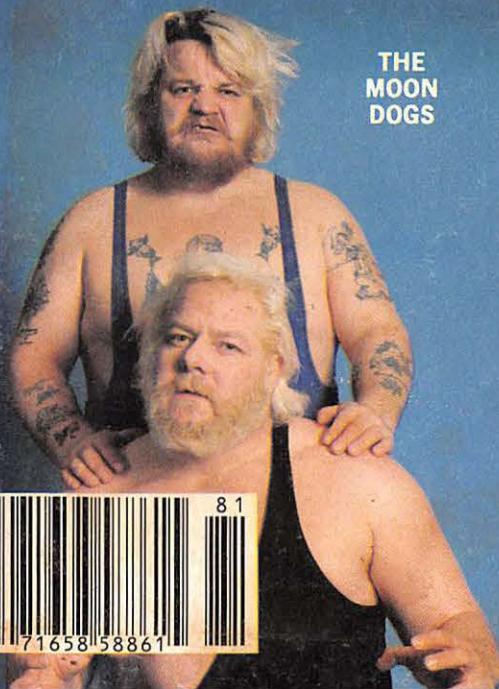
THE
FABULOUS
MOOLAH

LADY
WRESTLING'S
WORLD
CHAMPION

IN THIS
ISSUE

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WRESTLING
SECTION

TOMMY
RICH'S
TRIUMPHANT
RETURN
TO GEORGIA



THE
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DOGS

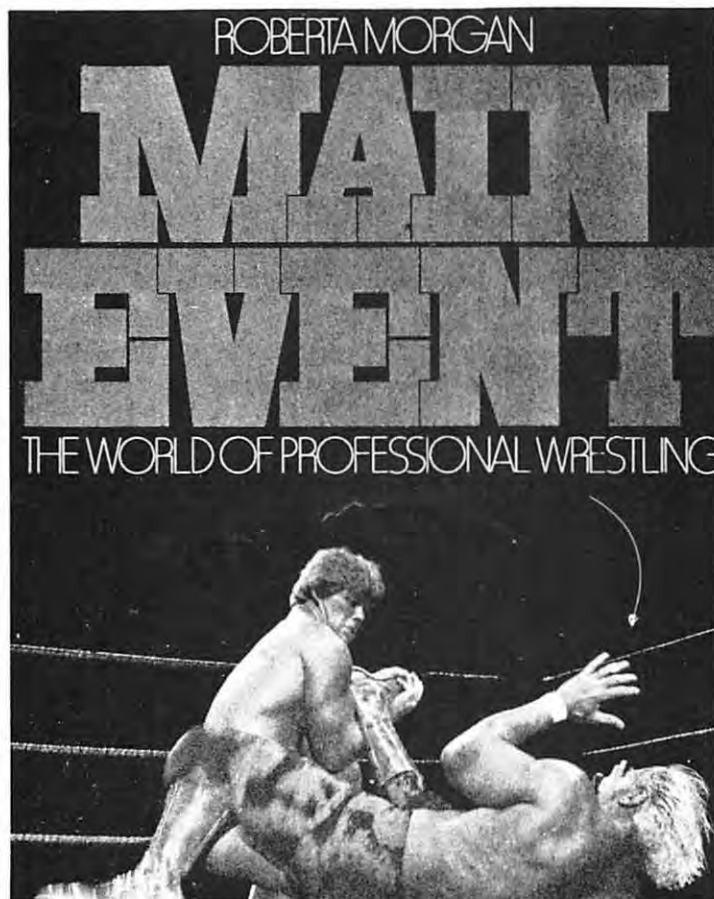


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THE RING'S **Wrestling** magazine

August 1981

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AS I SEE IT

BY JAMES C. MELBY

The nature of lady wrestling has certainly taken a change since coming into prominence in the late forties in the United States and Canada. In those bygone days, women wrestlers were treated as something special. It was not unusual to see top stars such as Mildred Burke, June Byers, etc. be featured in main events.

Maybe the novelty of seeing two professional lady wrestlers go at it has worn off, certainly most promoters now treat the ladies as special attractions to be used only once or twice a year. I for one think that they are missing the boat.

There is a great interest in the girls who chose to grapple professionally for a living. In fact the demand is so great that there are now numerous pretenders involved in farces such as "mud wrestling," who daily are trying to capitalize on the fans hunger for the action provided by professional wrestling's female competitors.

Certainly there is just as much com-

petition amongst the pros as there was twenty or thirty years ago. Leading stars such as the champion, The Fabulous Moolah, Joyce Grable, Wenonoa Little Heart, Le Lani Kai, Vivian St. John, are all in tremendous condition, and willing to give their all to prove mid-ring superiority.

The first promoter who becomes wise to this situation will find his cards not only richly enhanced, but also heavier at the box office. The power people of wrestling have always contended that they give the fans what they want, why are they missing the boat here?

It seems the press is a bit to blame. I find numerous magazines on the newstands featuring pinups of women, who have never competed in a single professional wrestling match.

Worse yet, some magazines stoop so far as to stage so called apartment house matches, making use of exotic models in skimpy bathing suits. It may sell a few more magazines, but it has nothing to do with professional wrestling, or the hard working athletes who are competing in rings in real matches for a living.

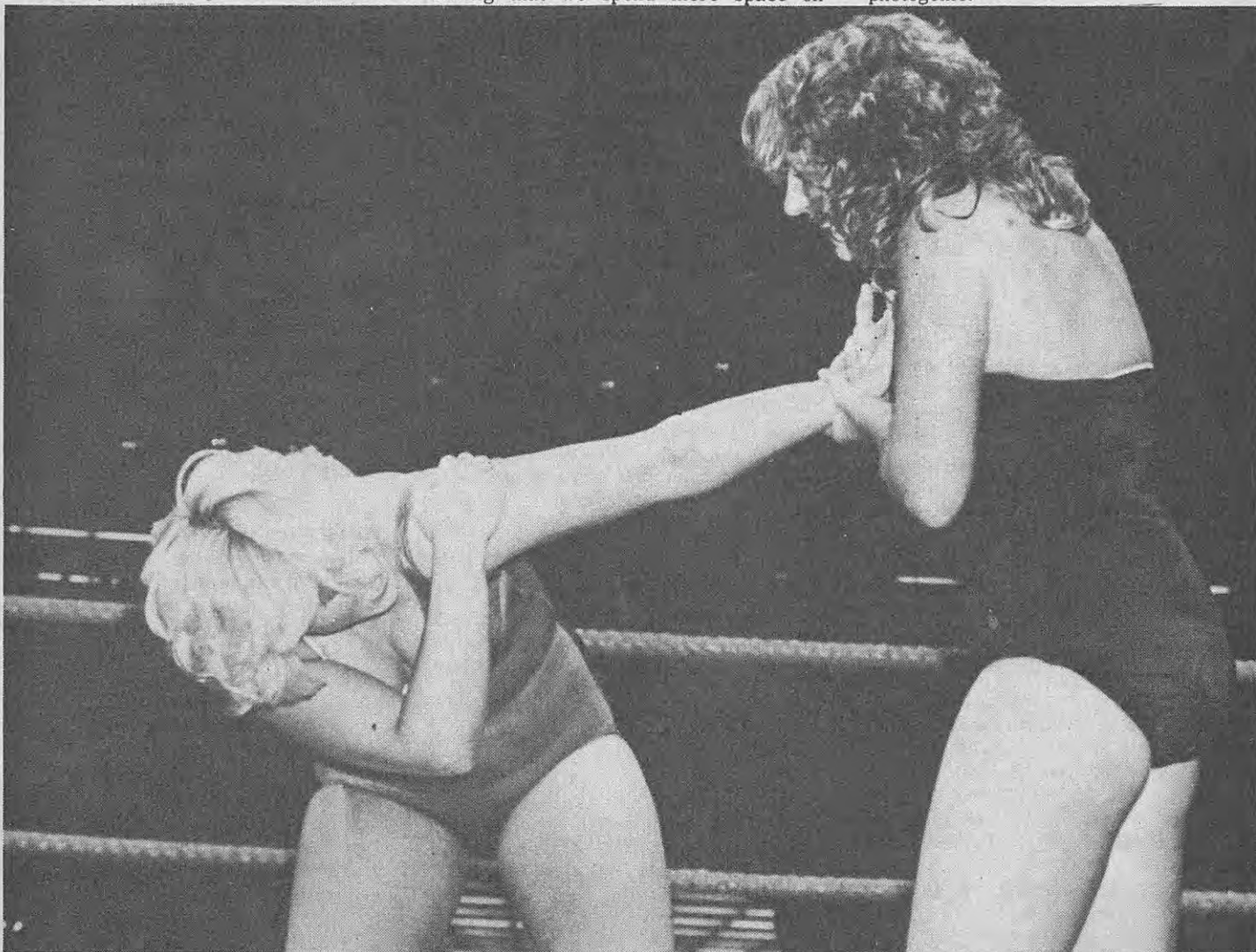
We received many letters monthly asking that we spend more space on

covering the real lady wrestlers. We normally try to feature at least one article per issue on a top ranked female grappler. But you readers have asked for more, so in this issue we have put together a special twelve page section on some of the sport's real pros.

If response is good to this approach and coverage, we will make the section somewhat of a regular feature. Any correspondence sent to us will certainly be taken under great consideration.

I would like to thank the members of our staff who spent extra time and effort going through their files to make this special section possible. Extra special thanks go to Ed Loughman, Gene Gordon, Jeff Howell and Terrance Machalek for helping us put this thing together.

In closing I would like to say one thing about the young lady who is our featured back cover color pinup. Kandi Maloy is the real thing, she really is a professional wrestler. I think it is time that the press start giving some space to the beautiful young women who are actually competing in the ring. There is no need to hire models to pose as women wrestlers, the true lady grapplers are just as interesting and photogenic.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers interested in contacting the editors can write to them in care of: **Wrestling Magazine, Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56001.** We will, from time to time, reprint letters and sometimes our answers, that we feel are of interest to all of our readers. Due to the heavy volume of mail we receive, we cannot promise a personal answer to every letter. But we assure you that every suggestion you make to us is considered.

WANTS MORE A.W.A. COVERAGE

Thank you for your great magazine on wrestling. I love to read about wrestling all over the world, but especially the fellows competing in the A.W.A. I enjoyed your recent features on Dino Bravo and Tito Santana, and hope that in the near future you will be doing one on Buck "Rock & Roll" Zum Hofe.

Joanne Basl
Winnepeg, Manitoba

WRESTLING GETS GEORGIA RADIO COVERAGE

I am writing in reference to "As I See It" in your magazine's December issue. I agree totally with you about more sports media coverage on Professional Wrestling. I am proud to say Atlanta does have coverage of the wrestling events held in the city with WGST Radio station, and have had coverage for a year now. The station has a program that comes on every night from 10:15 to 12:00 PM, Monday through Friday, called Sports Final. These two hours and 45 minutes cover nothing but sports and of course professional wrestling is included, as a big plus. Brad Nessler and myself cover the matches before the night they are held at the Omni and a live report is called in from the Omni with the results from the matches. We have had several interviews of wrestlers and have had guest wrestlers appear on the show. This is a big plus for the wrestling fan who cannot make it to the Omni or want the results from the matches. I guess I am the first female wrestling announcer on the radio.

The television stations cover the wrestling events held here periodically and of course we have Channel 17 with Georgia Championship Wrestling. Atlanta is a wrestling fans paradise. With the excellent matches held at the Omni and around Atlanta and the coverage to keep the fan informed you couldn't ask for more. I am glad to see Atlanta to be so advanced in what I see to be the next "Super Bowl" sport, Professional Wrestling.

Jean Manning
Decatur, Ga.

DISPUTE BACKLUND'S SUPERIORITY

I do not think that Bob Backlund is a worthy holder of the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Title. Every time I have seen him wrestle lately, he has been either equaled or defeated by fine men such as Stan Hansen, Sgt. Slaughter, or Larry Zbyszko, but because of ridiculous rules or technicalities, these men were not awarded the belt. After the match these wrestlers are not given the credit they so rightfully deserve. No one even admits to the fact that Backlund WAS beaten, even though he retained the belt.

Bob Backlund is a wimp and a disgrace to the WWF and should be stripped of his belt.

I would be very grateful if you would print this letter to show others my views, even though it may differ with the views of most. Thank You.

Sincerely,
Larry Weisberg
Harrisburg, Pa.

KEEP SANTANA ARTICLES COMING

I'd like to compliment you on having such a great magazine. I read it every month and can honestly say that I have never been disappointed by anything in it.

The article in your April issue on Tito Santana was of special interest to me. I've wondered how he was doing since he left the W.W.F. for the rings of the A.W.A. It seems like he will always be a true champion wherever he chooses to wrestle. Keep running stories on him, we miss him in the W.W.F.

Sue Durchin
Gilbertsville, Pa.

PLEASED BY CRUSHER STORY

I really loved the feature, "The Crusher - A.W.A. Enforcer." He has been my favorite for a number of years now.

Mike Hayes
Pomaria, S.C.

WHERE'S COWBOY BOB ELLIS?

I enjoy reading your magazine very much. I was wondering what happened to Cowboy Bob Ellis, who you used to feature from time to time over the years?

Mike Anderson
Sioux City, Iowa

EDITOR'S NOTE

After quite a long and illustrious career in the ring Cowboy Bob Ellis received an injury at the hands of Outlaw Ron Bass, and decided to retire.

SUPPORTS AMATEUR COVERAGE

First I'd like to add that I am a new subscriber, and so far the issues that I have received have been nothing short of excellent. I disagree strongly with a letter you recently printed, which criticized your story on the amateur tournament that W.W.F. Champion Bob Backlund sponsored. I thought that reader was rather rude. Personally I found the article rather interesting, and certainly not a waste of space.

Sharon Seiker
Reading, Pa.

WRESTLERS HAVE MORE HITS

I enjoyed your recent article "Wrestling On Record - A Look At The Grapplers And The Recording Industry." I didn't realize that so many wrestlers had cut records.

Besides the album you mentioned that Jerry "The King" Lawler has out, he has released a number of singles. Among them are "Solid Gold Rock & Roll," "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do," and "The Ballad of Jerry Lawler." They were all released on the Starburst label.

Handsome Jimmy Valiant did release one record that I know of, "Son Of A Gypsy," it is pretty good but I don't think he should hang up his tights for a career in music. By the way that record is Fretone 53.

Shawn Dempsey
Ellendale, Tenn.

EDITORS NOTE:

Thank you for sharing this information with us. I hope that all of you enjoyed the article on Jimmy Hart in our last issue, who had quite a successful career in music before entering the world of professional wrestling. I have received some tapes of wrestling related records that I missed the first time around, and am currently compiling them for review in preparation for doing a follow up article, which we will publish shortly.

TOMMY RICH IS HER FAVORITE

My favorite wrestler is Tommy Rich. I think he is the most exciting man in the sport today. He has the necessary skill, strength, and determination to become the next World's Heavyweight Champion. Please keep doing stories on Tommy.

Susie Drummon
Oxford, Alabama

EDITOR'S NOTE

We hope you enjoy the story on "Wild-fire" in this issue. We have done a number of things on him in recent issues, and more are planned.

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WANT ADS

The following people want to obtain certain items as listed in their messages:

Dennis Duffy, 2550 County Rd. #37, R.D. #2, Holcomb, N.Y. 14469 is interested in buying wrestling results from the WWF, NWA, or AWA. Write him with list of what you have available and prices.

Robert Adcock, 908 Winsap Ct., Baltimore, MD 21227 is interested in buying programs from the Omni in Atlanta, and Madison Square Garden in New York.

Tony Canella, 16 Columbia St., Westfield, Mass. 01085, is interested in buying films of wrestling cards at the Atlanta Omni, anywhere in the Mid-Atlantic, and Madison Square Garden - and video cassette tapes of Georgia, Mid-Atlantic, and Florida television programs. Also clippings of lady wrestlers Fabulous Moolah, Lelani Kai, and Vivian St. John in action.

Pat James, Box 168, Meadowlands, Pa. 15347 wants to buy articles, photos, and films of Harley Race, Ted DiBiase, and Steve O. Also is interested in buying a video tape of Georgia Championship Wrestling's April 25, 1981, program with a feature on Ted DiBiase.

Andy Schaffer, 322 Mintercell Dr., Bristol, Virginia 24201 wants to buy color photos of The Nature Boy Ric Flair, Tony Atlas, The Junkyard Dog, Andre the Giant, Tommy Rich, and Austin Idol.

Mark Sabel, 3535 East Barnard, Cudahy, Wisconsin 53110 is interested in buying or trading for clippings, results, autographs, photos, and programs from any area. Also anything to do with Ric Flair, Tony Atlas, and Mil Mascaras. Send your lists of items for sale and your prices.

Connie Hovland, 412 1/2 West Lincoln, Fergus Falls, MN. 56537 would like to buy stories, clippings, and photos of Austin Idol, The Fabulous Freebirds, Tommy Rich, The Valiant Brothers (particularly when they held the W.W.F. Tag Team Title belts), Greg Valentine, and Hulk Hogan. Also photos, advertisements, and programs of wrestling cards from Madison Square Garden, Shea Stadium, The Omni in Atlanta, and the following areas: the Mid-Atlantic region, Nashville-Memphis, TN., Lexington-Louisville, KY., and Los Angeles, CA.

Debbie Marks, 13 Pamela Road, Natick, Mass. 01760 would like to buy absolutely anything on Tony Garea.

Andrea Gates, 3109 Foggy Mt. Loop, Sanford, N.C. 27330 would like to buy anything (color photos, posters, programs, etc.) on The Fabulous Freebirds. Send her your price lists of items.

Keeling Smith, 422 Haralson Ave., Gadsden, AL. 35901 wants to buy wrestling magazines from before 1975. Send him a list of what you have and prices.

Ann Marie DeMarco, 2579 Lexington Avenue, East Meadow, NY 11554 would like to buy pictures and stories on Tommy "Wildfire" Rich and Robert Gibson.

Tommy Ferrara, 657-17th Ave., Longmont, Colorado 80501 would like to purchase old programs and wrestling material dating back to the days of Don Evans, Buddy Rogers, Verne Gagne, Dusek Bros., Blackie Guzman, Danny McShane, etc.

John Sillets, 33 Lakeside Estates, New Richmond, Ohio 45157 is interested in buying the Jan, Mar, and May issues of Sports Review Wrestling. Send him list of your prices.

Nick Folio, 1814 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Port Richey, Florida 33568 wants to buy photos of girl wrestlers.

Thomas M. Sheldon, 325 West Marshall Street, Norristown, Pa., 19401 has a whole list of old wrestling magazines he is very interested in buying. Send him your price lists of what you have.

Kym Lane, 312 Olson Rd., Lv. Wn. 98632, is interested in buying pictures, buttons, etc. of wrestlers in the northwest, esp. Jay Youngblood.

Debbie Johnson, 1718 Colonial Hills Drive, Southaven, Mississippi 38671 would like to trade for or buy pictures of Robert Gibson, Ricky Gibson, Ken Lucas, Tommy Gilbert, or Ricky Morton.

Jessie Loper, 1200 E. 19th Street, Snyder, Texas 79549 would like to purchase color photos, clippings and action shots of S.S. Billy Graham and Mil Mascaras together. Send your lists with prices to him.

Richard Roundy, 6847 Nashville Road, Lanham, Maryland 20801 is interested in buying VHS cassettes of wrestling from Madison Square Garden, Boston Garden, Baltimore Civic Center, Florida, and Georgia.

Paula Gaskin, RT. 4, Box 4, Boaz, Alabama 35957, wants to buy pictures of Tommy Rich. Send her description of photo and price.

Aaron Price, P.O. Box 429, Windsor, New York 13865 wants to buy clips, photos, and information about W.W.F. wrestling.

Rhonda Arbaugh, 6317 East Pea Ridge Road, Huntington, W.Va. 25705 is interested in buying photos of John Bonello.

Catherine Ridley, Rt. 7, Box 455A-1, Oxford, Alabama 36203 would like to buy color photos of Austin Idol. Send her prices and description of those available.

Claude Brosseau, C.P. 1304, Terminus St. Paul, Quebec G1K 7E5, P.Q. Canada, would like to buy wrestling films of Yukon Eric, Argentina Rocca, Buddy Rogers, Bobby Managoff, Billy Darnell, Prince Maiava, and Manuel Cortez.

Jeanne Lenninger, 1203 First Ave., Lot 47, South Sioux City, NE. 68776 is interested in buying match results and newspaper clippings of the A.W.A. matches at Denver, Colorado.

Karen Arbaugh, 6317 East Pea Ridge Rd., Huntington, W.Va. 25705 is interested in buying photos of Ted DiBiase.

Sandy Y. Tipton, P.O. Box 661, Erwin, Tennessee 37650, would like to buy back issues of the Mid Atlantic Wrestling Magazine from 1975 to present that are in good condition. They're published by Jim Crockett Promotions in Charlotte, North Carolina. Also interested in photos and information on Bob Duncum.

Matt Hanhauser, 8 Eiland Lane, Willingboro, N.J. 08046 is interested in buying good pictures of Ivan Putski and Dusty Rhodes, also programs from all over, and genuine autographs.

Jeff Bowman, 3725 N.E. 130th, Seattle, WA 98125 would like to buy a poster of photos of The Junkyard Dog, and programs from the Omni in Atlanta.

William Zimprich, 919 E. Clarke, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212 wants to buy back issues of Wrestling Review.

Debbie, 3869 Patte Ann Dr., Memphis, TN 38116, would like to buy or trade for pictures of Rick Morton for other wrestlers in the Memphis area.

Wayne Krokback, 135 S. Court Str. #8, Thunder Bay 'P, Ontario, Canada P7B 2X5, would like to buy back issues of early AWA souvenir books, AWA picture books, The Wrestling News, and any Japanese wrestling magazines. Send him your lists with prices.

Beverly Hartsfield, Route 4, Waterloo Road, Lawrenceburg, Tenn. 38464, would like to buy photos of: Rick & Robert Gibson, Ted DiBiase, Steve Keirn, Kevin Sullivan, Ric Flair, Dino Bravo, Tommy Rich, Tony Garea, Barry Windham, Adrian Adonis, Rick Martel, and Gino Hernandez. She is also interested in clippings, promotion cards, Mid Atlantic programs, size medium t-shirts, buttons, posters, articles, and stories on any wrestler listed above for her collection.

Yes, you can subscribe to the official Major League Wrestling programs published by Pro Wrestling Enterprises. Just write to us at Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56001 for complete details on collector's subscriptions and back issues. Many major A.W.A., N.W.A., and W.W.F. (including Madison Square Garden) programs are available from us.

GLOBAL WRESTLING is a four page newsletter filled with world wide reports, news, nostalgia, and a wrestler of the month profile. Cost for a single copy is 75¢ and a S.A.S.E. It can be ordered from Tom Burke, 31 Groveland Street, Springfield, Mass. 01108.

Professional Wrestling Belt Buckle - Spectacular silver belt buckle with black lettering and picture. For sale by mail for \$6.00 which includes postage. Order from: Boyd Pierce, Box 388, Burleson, Texas 76028.

John Lawson has both color and black and white photos for sale. For list send S.A.S.E. to him at 618 South Center Street, Terre Haute, Indiana 47807.

For color and black and white photos of N.W.A. stars photo list send 25¢ to Kathy Dowd, 1368 Lafayette #9, Denver, Colorado 80218.

Gene Gordon has three lists of wrestling photos available: girls, men, and midgets. For each list send two 10¢ stamps to him at 413 N. Deal, Newton, North Carolina 28658.

Jeff Walton, who is associated with the wrestling promotion in Los Angeles, offers the following official souvenir items for sale by mail. Wrestling photo buttons featuring Chavo Guerrero, Tom Pritchard, Al Madril, and John Tolos — \$1.00 each. Championship Wrestling Stars magazine Magazine featuring the top stars in southern California — \$1.50 each. Rare program from the famous 1971 Blassie-Tolos match held in the Los Angeles Coliseum — \$2.50 each. And he also has Los Angeles programs going back to 1970. Just send \$1.00 and the date of each program wanted. He charges an additional 50¢ per order to cover postage and handling. You can send your order and payment to Jeff Walton, P.O. Box 64345, Los Angeles, California 90064.

For sale - The very first issue of Wrestling Monthly - Only \$10 per copy, including postage. Hurry if you want one because the supply is limited. Order from: Wrestling Monthly, Box 452, Pleasantville, New York 10570.

RINGSPOOT: The British glossy wrestling magazine fully illustrated covers male and female wrestling. Annual subscription \$10.00 dollar bills only please, to save heavy bank charges. British readers £5.00. Photosets of strong women and lady wrestlers also. RINGSPOOT (R), 5 Stockland Street, Caerphilly, Mid-Glam CFB 1GD, Great Britain.

Morris Manheimer, 1 Woodleys Lane #3, Great Neck, N.Y. 11023 says that he has 140 wrestling magazines for sale from the 1977 to 1981 period. Send him S.A.S.E. for details.

Brian Smith, 68 Fielding Terr., Uncasville, CT. 06382 says that he has Larry Zbyszko t-shirts for sale. Send him S.A.S.E. for details.

Mark Gallo, 2576 S. Pulaski, Chicago, Ill. 60623 has the line-up sheet inserts from Chicago wrestling programs for sale. Send him a S.A.S.E. for details.

Mike Baikie, 8727 S. Newland, Oak Lawn, Ill. 60453, has wrestling magazines from 1974 to 1981 for sale. Send him a S.A.S.E. for details.

Dennis Shea, 123 Spring St., West Haven, CT. 06516, would like to trade results from New York's Madison Square Garden and New Haven cards for results of Georgia, Mid-Atlantic, Florida, Omni, or Tenn. He also would like information on buying wrestling films from all areas.

Andreas Matle, Homburger StraBe 17, 6000 Frankfurt / Main 90, West Germany, is interested in obtaining posed and action photos of Ed Wiskoski. He will buy them, or trade information on German wrestling tournaments for them.

Lisa Parker, 100 Pine Cove Road, LaFollette, Tennessee 37766 says she will trade pictures of Rick Steamboat, Austin Idol, Ric Flair, Dusty Rhodes, Wrestling II, Tony Atlas, Hulk Hogan, Dino Bravo, Terry Taylor, and Kevin Sullivan for pictures, programs, articles, and anything concerning Tommy Rich.

Christine Olson, 8007 East "D" Street, Tacoma, Washington 98404, is selling programs from the northwest featuring Jay Youngblood, Buzz Sawyer, Roddy Piper, Andre the Giant, and Playboy Buddy Rose. Send her S.A.S.E. for details.

"Crybaby" Edwards, who is the publicity director for the I.C.W. wrestling office has the following souvenir items for sale by the mail. A package deal of 14 8x10's of I.C.W. wrestlers for \$6.98. Window ad posters (3 different ones) - \$1.50 each. I.C.W. tee-shirts for \$7.50, available in gold, orange, tan, yellow, and blue, when ordering please state desired color and shirt size. Money orders only! The address is I.C.W., Dept. MQ, P.O. Box 24382, Lexington, KY. 40524.

If you wish to be listed in this column send your advertisement typed on a 3' by 5' index card to Wrestling Magazine Swap 'N Sell, Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56001. Sellers must furnish a sample and be willing to answer all responses they receive that include S.A.S.E. We reserve the right to reject and advertisement for any reason, and to condense/delete parts, or change wording of any advertisement as we see fit. There is no charge for advertisements as this column is run strictly as a service for our many readers who collect wrestling material.

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THE RING WRESTLING - JUNE 1976 includes features on Bruno Sammartino, Nick Bockwinkel, Terry Funk, Wahoo McDaniel, and Lou Thesz.

THE RING WRESTLING - DECEMBER 1976: Includes features on Greg Gagne & Jim Brunzell, Ali-Inokimatch, 1976 U.S. Olympiateam, Ninth Annual W.F.I.A. convention.

THE RING WRESTLING - JUNE 1977: Includes features on Gus Sonnenberg, Joyce Grable & Vickie Williams, Giant Baba, Harley Race, and Gino Hernandez.

THE RING WRESTLING - MARCH 1977: Includes features on Stan Stasiak, Pat Barrett, Jose Lothario, Rocky Johnson, Baron von Raschke & Horst Hoffman, and Don Kernodle.

THE RING WRESTLING - OCTOBER 1977: Includes features on Antonio Rocca, Louis Albano, Tony Garea, Mil Mascaras, Chief Peter Maivia, and Russ Francis.

THE RING WRESTLING - JANUARY 1979: Includes features on Joyce Grable-Girl Wrestler of the Year, 11th annual W.F.I.A. convention, Jerry Lawler, and Dino Bravo.

THE RING WRESTLING - MAY 1979: Includes features on Jim Brunzell, Victor Rivera, Kowalski's School, Gorilla Monsoon, Bill Dundee, and Tom Burke's History of wrestling managers.

THE RING WRESTLING - AUGUST 1979: Includes features on Backlund vs. Bockwinkel, Debbie Combs, John Studd, Fred Curry, Jerry Jarrett, and Akio Sato.

THE RING'S WRESTLING MAGAZINE - NOVEMBER 1979: The first issue under editorial control of Pro Wrestling Enterprises but before merger with The Wrestling News.

THE WRESTLING NEWS #15: a special issue with the spotlight on the A.W.A. Contains reprints of program stories on Patera, Graham, etc. from that time period. (Issued March 1973).

The Wrestling News #26 - special National Wrestling Alliance West Area edition. Includes history of the World's Lighthweight Championship. (Issued August 1974.)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #27: special National Wrestling Alliance West Edition with coverage of the 1974 W.F.I.A. wrestling fans convention. (Issued October 1974)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #48 - Special World Wrestling Federation Edition - includes full color glossy centerfold of Mil Mascaras & Dusty Rhodes. (Issued June 1978)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #50 - special East edition - includes report on the 1978 W.F.I.A. convention, color glossy centerfold of Hickerson & Condry, Wrestling in Tennessee and more. (Issued October 1978)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #51 - special East edition - includes a full color centerfold of the Valiant brothers. (Issued December 1978)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #53 - special N.W.A. East Edition - special story on the Welch family is included in this issue. (Issued April 1979)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #55: includes "The Sam Muchnick Story" by Larry Matysik and report on Superdome Extravaganza #7 (Issued August 1979)

THE WRESTLING NEWS #57 - Includes an interview with Bruiser Brody. (Issued December 1979)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #62 - includes features on Santana, Christie, Von Erichs. (Issued June 1980)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #64 - includes features on Kevin von Erich, Bob Backlund, Tommy Gilbert, Joey Rossi, Kan Mantell, Bobby Jagers, Dom DeNucci, and more. (Issued August 1980)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #65 - Includes report on Shea Spectacular, Ventura & Adonis win A.W.A. tag tile, Backlund vs. Patera, and more - (Issued September 1980)

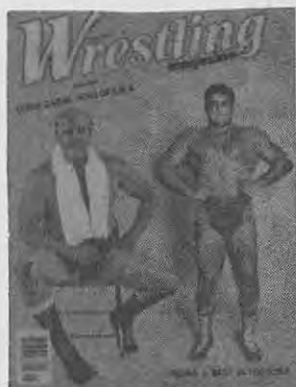
THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #66 - Includes features on Rhodes, Gagne, Morales, Gibsons, The Destroyer, and more. (Issued November 1980).

THE WRESTLING NEWS #67 - includes features on Rick McGraw, Wendi Richter, Bill Irwin, Jerry Blackwell, Wahoo McDaniel, The Superstar, Spike Huber, and more. (Issued December 1980)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #68 - Includes features on Backlund vs. Race, Bobby Heenan's Family, Dragon Fujinami, King Kong Brody, Jimmy Valiant, and more. (Issued February 1981.)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #70 - Includes major features on Bob Backlund, The Crusher, Mr. Wrestling II, and Capt. Lou Albano. Interview with Chavo Guerrero, and much more. (Issued April 1981)

THE WRESTLING NEWS WRESTLING MAGAZINE #71 - Includes photo feature on Verne Gagne at Home, features on The Free Birds, Larry Lane, The Moon Dogs, Count Bartelli, Austin Idol, and much more. (Issued May 1981)



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VERNE GAGNE AND GIANT BABA BATTLE IN SPECIAL MATCH IN JAPAN

By Koichi Yoshizawa

On January 18, 1981, Korakuen Hall in Tokyo, Japan, was the sight of an epic wrestling contest between two of this century's greatest competitors, Verne Gagne and Giant Baba. Although the two had clashed previously in tag team contests, this was the first time that the two ring generals encountered each other in a one on one situation.

Gagne, the current A.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion, ventured to Japan to defend his title laurels against the best that Japanese promoters could offer in the line of worthy contenders. Giant Baba without a doubt was definitely to be the former University of Minnesota's football star's greatest test.

This dream match had another special significance as it also marked Baba's 3000th professional match. He, of course, wanted to become the second man in history to have won both the N.W.A. and A.W.A. Titles. The only man who has ever accomplished this feat is Canadian Gene Kiniski. Giant Baba has held the N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Title on three separate occasions, defeating Jack Brisco, and Harley Race, twice.

A big ceremony was held before the match, with each competitor being presented flowers by lovely Japanese girls. Pacific Wrestling Federation

President Lord James Blears was in attendance for the big event. He announced that not only was Gagne's A.W.A. crown on the line, so was Baba's P.W.F. Title.

The match started with a handshake between the two, and opened with a fine display of move and counter-move, as both men tried to wear down each other's legs and arms. Baba gained an advantage with a headlock, but the wily Gagne effectively escaped from that predicament.

Giant Baba put his advantage in size and weight to good use by trapping his adversary in a full nelson. When Gagne attempted an escape, Baba nailed him with a spinning neckbreaker. He quickly followed up with a side suplex, gaining a near pinfall. Verne powered out and used one of his famous flying dropkicks to stop Baba dead in his tracks. Sensing that he had his challenger reeling, Gagne clamped on a sleeper hold to take the first fall.

When Verne tried to take the second fall with the sleeper hold once more, Giant Baba was able to stretch his long leg to the safety of the ropes, and gain a break-call from the referee.

The tide of the battle soon changed when Baba stepped out of the way of a dropkick, and Gagne crashed hard to the canvas. Baba moved in with a series of judo chops and karate kicks, eventually using a

mighty kick to the jaw to put the champ down for the count of three, and the nod in the second fall.

The third fall saw each man trying to use his moves again that had won a fall. Each man effectively blocked the other's attack. Finally after about five minutes Gagne hopped up on Baba's back and clamped on the sleeper hold. Unfortunately they both toppled over the top rope, and unto the ringside floor. They battled each other there while the referee started his count. When neither man climbed back into the squared circle by the count of ten, the official declared the match a "no contest."

In a post match interview Verne Gagne said, "I was completely caught off guard when Baba caught me with that big boot of his on my jaw, I thought he had broken my whole face open. He is a worthy contender and I would consider giving him a rematch. If this does come to pass, I would prefer that the return go be held somewhere in the U.S., in an A.W.A. arena."

Only time will tell if these two legendary masters will be opponents once more. One thing is for certain, they both wrestled one of the toughest matches of their long and illustrious careers when they clashed this first time.



A.W.A. Champion Verne Gagne was given flowers by a pretty Japanese girl before the match started.

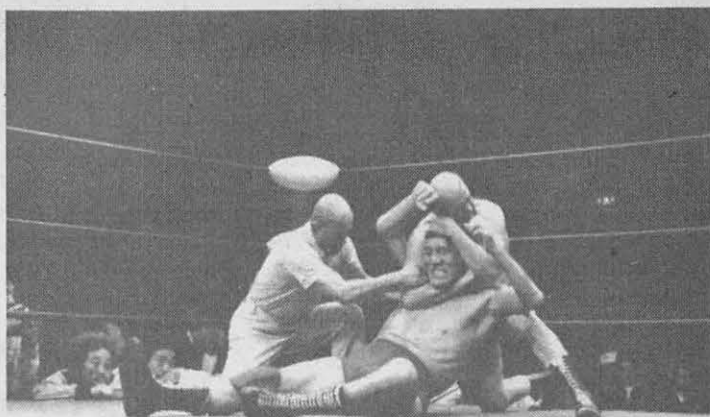
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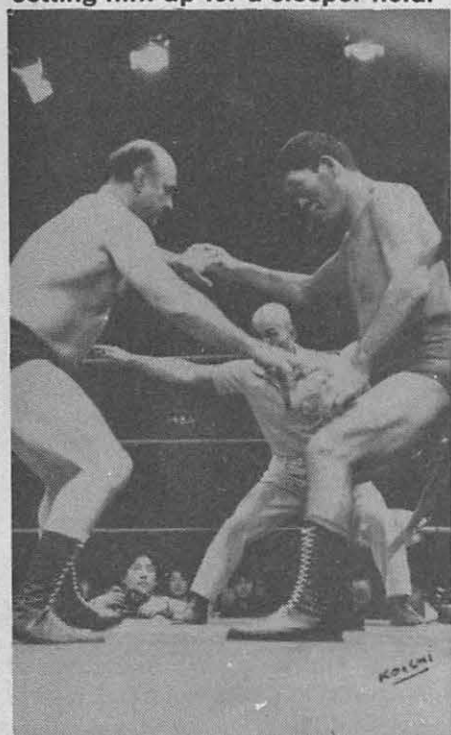
Giant Baba receives a special commemorative plaque before wrestling his 3,000th match.



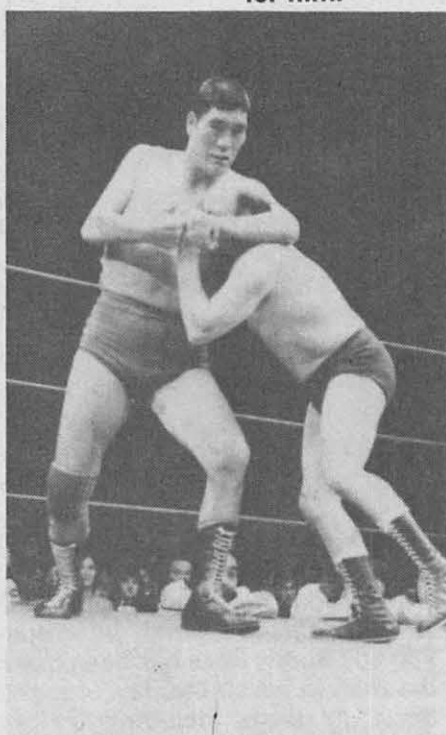
Verne nails Giant Baba with a flying dropkick to the jaw, setting him up for a sleeper hold.



Gagne's sleeper hold turned the trick and won the first fall for him.



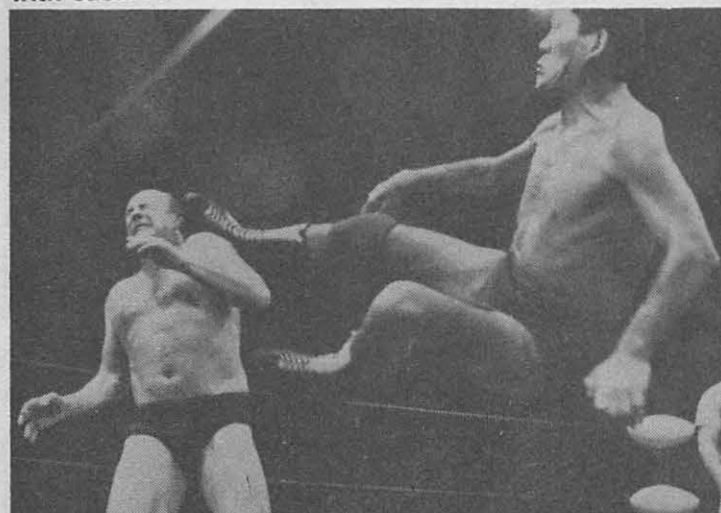
Gagne and Baba cautiously hook up with each other.



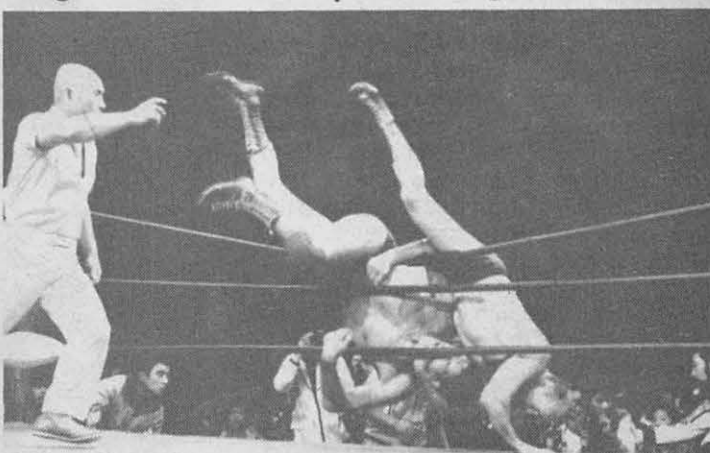
The difference in their size is evident as Baba headlocks Gagne.



The Japanese Champion uses a leg-sweep to take Gagne to the mat.



Baba turns the tables on Gagne and hits him with a dropkick of his own.



The end came when both men fell out of the ring. ■

A LOOK AT PACIFIC NORTHWEST GRAPPLING

By Elton Nesselrodt

The Pacific Northwest. Although very little is heard out of this area the fans will be quick to remind you of the wrestling greats who have passed thru Portland. The list includes such names as: Lord Johnathon Boyd, Lonnie Mayne, Andre the Giant, Apache Bull Ramos, Jesse Ventura, Adrian Adonis, Ron Starr, Dutch Savage, Ripper Collins, Jimmy Snuka, and many others too numerous to name.

But currently headlining the Pacific Northwest is Playboy Buddy Rose and his Army. At the present time Rose and his Army, which consists of Rip Oliver and the Destroyer, are waging war on the Pacific Coast Heavyweight Champion Jay Youngblood. Youngblood took the title from Rose a couple of weeks ago. Rose swore Youngblood would not keep the belt. Later Buddy Rose took the belt from Youngblood and threw it into the Willamete River from the top of the Fremont Bridge (located in Portland, OR). A \$2500 fine was levied onto Rose which was used to purchase a new belt. The new belt is still around Jay Youngblood's waist.

A person may ask why there is such a hatred between Youngblood and Rose. A couple of years ago Rose, with the help of Ed Wiskowski, had broken Youngblood's arm. Youngblood left the area swearing to come back for revenge. When Jay Youngblood returned to Portland, Rose had equipped himself with his current Army. In the brutal matches that followed it seemed that Youngblood and his partner Joe Lightfoot would never get all the revenge he desired.

Even other wrestlers were having their own problems with "General" Rose and his Army. Johnathon Boyd, Dutch Savage, Fidel Cortez, and many others had felt the power of the Army.

Finally Youngblood's father, Chief Jay Youngblood, came to the Pacific Northwest to help rid Portland and the surrounding area of Rose. It finally appeared that Rose and his Army had bitten off more than they could chew. After a few weeks, however, the Army managed to hurt Youngblood Sr. with a cowardly attack from behind. Rose and the Army gave him a triple piledriver three times. Chief Youngblood had to be carried out of the ring. Late it was determined that he had a broken vertebrae in his neck. Youngblood Jr. was livid with rage to say the least. Now he had two debts to settle with Rose and his Army. His broken arm from two years ago, and now his father.

Finally Jay Youngblood got a taste of the revenge he was seeking from Rose and the Army. Last week Rip Oliver signed a strap match with Youngblood.

To insure that Oliver would not be helped in any way, referee Dutch Savage talked to the wrestling commission, who agreed that if Rose interfered with the match in any way his license would be revoked for life.

At the start of the match Oliver did not want the rawhide strap tied around his wrist. It was soon proved that Youngblood had the upper hand in the match as blood began to pour down Oliver's face. Although Oliver did manage to get in a

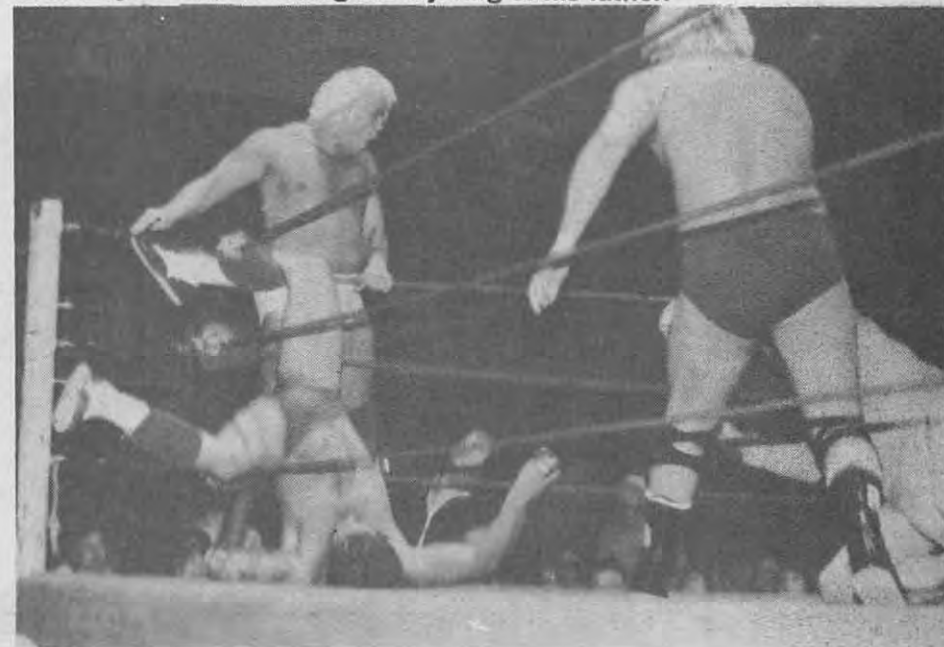
couple of low blows he took more punishment than he gave out. On the third attempt Youngblood dragged Oliver to all four corners of the ring and won the match.

Oliver definitely suffered at the hands of the Pacific Coast champ. He wound up with several cuts on his head and a broken nose.

To Jay Youngblood this is only a small part of the debt he intends to repay Buddy Rose.



When Buddy Rose and Rick Oliver illegally double-teamed Matt Borne, it was Jay Youngblood's timely interference that saved him from serious injury. Playboy Buddy Rose has been making a habit of interfering in the matches of the men in his stable. Jay Youngblood has vowed to make Rose pay for his dastardly deeds, including the injuring of his father.



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WELCOME TO THE AGE OF THE DOGS

By Virginia-Maria Bowes

Lou Albano's Moon Dogs have copped the World Wrestling Federation's Tag-Team title, bringing more gold to the Captain's glory-gilded asylum of arch-villians.

"Higher than a kite", was the one way to describe the place I was at. We'd just come from a Vega show; -that is, a feast of wondrous wrestling, to which the promoter, Mr. Heraldo Vega and his fragile cousin, Hilda, invited only the tip-top best, the very cream, of the fierce Spanish-speaking grappling, scene, along with warriors from the W.W.F. who, of course, are the elite of the present-day mat world.

On that day, as if to place a crown atop the splendor which had been achieved during the five bouts that went before, we were given the happy treat of seeing Domenic DeNucci and Rick McGraw team-up in a heaven-kissed brotherhood that seemed to have it all.

Others have aptly dubbed him "Quick Draw" but, in a fuzzy pocket within my own mind, I always just naturally think of Rick as the Southern Angel, -a name with which to salute his mannerly, magnolia-gentled ways, the sun-warmed honey of his sleepy-time drawl and, particularly his simply uncanny defiance of gravity. He is faster than lightening-goosed mercury, a miracle of agility, with a peck of breathtaking moves that are no less than incredible and the boy flies like an angel!

And Dom, -warm, funny, passionate, priceless Dom, - with a body like seasoned oak and, by the way, a mind so keen, he is a source of never-ending amazement to me. Immensely strong, with a stamina that never says "die", he has an intimacy with all that is wrestling which knows no bounds. This Domenic is truly a wrestler's wrestler.

Impatience slivered the air, while the riled mob waited for the clang of the bell. Meanwhile, I took a pleasant amble through the monkey house of my own thoughts, reflecting upon the good fact that our area enjoys a wealth of really splendid good guys. But, of course, with our Bob to set the pace, how could they be any less?

Caught, as we all are, in the stunning starshine that is our invincible Champ, Bob Backlund, -in whom, of course, you have to recognize genuine greatness, -who, really, could resist becoming inspired?

Anyway, this sixth match of the day, -it was an afternoon show, - took on an unexpected Final-Battle-In-The-Bronx flavor. The bout started in pandemonium, which quickly spiraled into a stupor of free-swinging mania, with chaos everywhere and an all-out riot knocking heavily upon the door.



Playing a fool's game of hide-n'-seek with a danger that ran around looking for us, I high-tailed it out of the building, to dive headlong into the loamy flanks of my feisty little car. She proved herself a worthy accomplice by screeching a piercing warning into the fright-chilled wind, throwing back the glut of frenzied fans, who were teaming onto the arena's parking lot, where they blotched together like festering blisters. Careening around the lot with all doors aflap like a flock of imbecile geese, I tasted only too well how it must feel to be a hunted fugitive.

When, at last, I sensed the burden of three added presences in my car and heard the reassuring THUNK of the doors slam-out the terror that wanted to lay hold upon us, did I finally dare to loosen my sweat-glued grip upon the steering wheel. My rear view mirror framed a ragged landscape of rage, from where threats canon-balled from hate-darkened faces and obscenities, which shattered through my windows, hung upon the still air like bent ornaments upon a depraved Christmas tree.

And, so, for reasons that nobody ever came around to explain, -and which I never really questioned, anyway, - I was again serving as chauffeur to the strangest of all possible passengers. For, burrowing far into the plush of my back seat sat the two who'd tried to buck McGraw and DeNucci, -Albano's latest, double-barreled outrage, none other than the Federation's Tag-Team Champions, Rex and King Moon Dog. And, as if I could possibly ignore him, flanking my right was the old Master, himself, one Captain Louis Albano. Coiled against the door, he rocked heavily upon the seat we shared in time to a tune only he heard, bouncing me until my head bashed noisily into the closed sunroof of the car. He occasionally assaulted me with brick-hard glances, from behind his log-like arms, wherein he buried his furry head. When not on me, those eyes went just everywhere at once, as if they were two, spooked rooky guards at a mental home, who'd pulled their very first shift on a night of the full moon.

And it felt very right to me that, just as the peachy glow of late afternoon began to gild the gentle skies, we four were heading for other places, the way they made all the bad guys I'd ever heard about get out of town before sunset.

At last we came upon the velvet roads that stream like pale grey ribbons throughout the wonderland called Connecticut. Gliding into the grassy slope that skips alongside the Turnpike, I braked next to a humongous rock, to which still clung patches of die-hard snow, the way the delicious meat of a Brazil nut clutches at the edges of its hard, black shell. Using my nails to scratch it loose, I scrubbed a handful of the cold stuff, rolled it into my hanky and returned to the car. Opening the rear door closest to the Dog, Rex, he instantly shot up from rock-sound sleep into

full wakefulness, while his other half played possum behind barely-closed eyelids.

I hazarded the chilled handkerchief against Rex's nostril, from where a steady, seeping red stream spilled into the brindle cleft of his broad muzzle, giving mute evidence that he'd done battle with DeNucci that day and fallen victim to one of my all-time favorite wrestling maneuvers, -what I call "Dom's Famous Punch In The Nose".

Feeling like the little boy who'd removed the splinter from the lion's foot, I used my small nursing skill to disguise my prying stare, as I took careful measure of the two who'd been good enough to down the mighty duo of Tony Garea and Rick Martel. King, who went on feigning sleep, is stocky and splayed in build, heavily tattooed, with a thick chamois-clothed-colored foliage covering him from mouth to mane. He is readily recognized by his fondness for snarling, fang-baring shows of hostility. As the other shifted from the car, I realized that this Rex, -the one who was now experiencing the nose problem, - is quite tall, though not so wide as his brother, with an ashy smear of burned-out hair crossing his face. He is the quieter, stealthier, more skulking and, probably, the deadlier of the two. As he allowed me to tend his wound, it came to me that, with merely a fast swat of his mammoth, padded paw, Rex could easily hurl me into the distant rocks and level me to a broken heap at the side of the road. And, what's more, I knew that he sensed what I was thinking and this heavy understanding fell between us the way a dead sparrow falls from its tree. Regarding me from 'way up on that amused, superior ledge from where all beasties look down upon their two-legged cousins, Rex kept up an un-wavering vigil, the light of his fired-up eyes making them seem like brown sentinels, ever waiting and wary. All the while, hidden down deep within the cove of the back seat and behind his lie of sleep, King also watched. Satisfied that the bleeding had been stemmed, I slipped back into my place, doing my best not to notice the Captain who, throughout this entire episode, had been doing a maniac's mime of mindless gestures, set to the music of insane grunts.

Needless to say, considering the mental condition of each, they're lucky to be allowed out without a keeper (or is that who I am?). However, there is no way that any state in the Union, -even Jersey!-, would allow a member of this trio to hold a driver's license. So, they left the driving to me, all the way. I shimmed us back into the easy ripple of traffic, while accepting the goatskin sack the Captain offered. I know it was goatskin: there's no mistaking that smell. I downed me a short sip of a thick, sludge liquid, which put me in mind of codliver oil, spiked generously with Mr. Clean. It wasn't half bad, and it sure did a lot to chase the chill from those Spring-

fevered winds that blow berserkly during this, the changing of the seasons.

Anyone who tells me that he "hates" to travel, must surely go down different roads from where I've been. As for myself, I never get over how lucky I am that so much of my time is spent going from one place to the next. As the eternal party called night was swelling into high, we slid into crazy, mystical Hartford, a city of light and magic, glitz and dream, airheads and shimmer. In this Disney fantasy, erector-set-buildings swoon in the gold of an on-going light show and are topped by grand tureens, -all shivery blue and silver, - fitting pedestals to the score of sculpted regal birds and robed spectors who gaze upon it all.

Even the Dogs were less restless and, as if in celebration of this God-blessed place, I popped TIDDLYWINKS. TIDDLYWINKS, of course, is the name of the latest album put out by NRBQ, the outrageous four who just lately wandered into the wayward path of the Captain. He is now managing them and, speaking from experience, it's safe for me to say that these guys are destined to become household names, -or, believe me, Lou Albano will know the reason why.

So, there we were, tripping out and high on so much. This enchanted land, Connecticut. The sweet-smelling babe of a brand-new Spring. The music: at just that moment, we were being blown away with a keyboard solo, performed by Terry, a yellow-haired, red-sneakered sprite, who always wears a lot of hearts and visits my memory like a tickle.

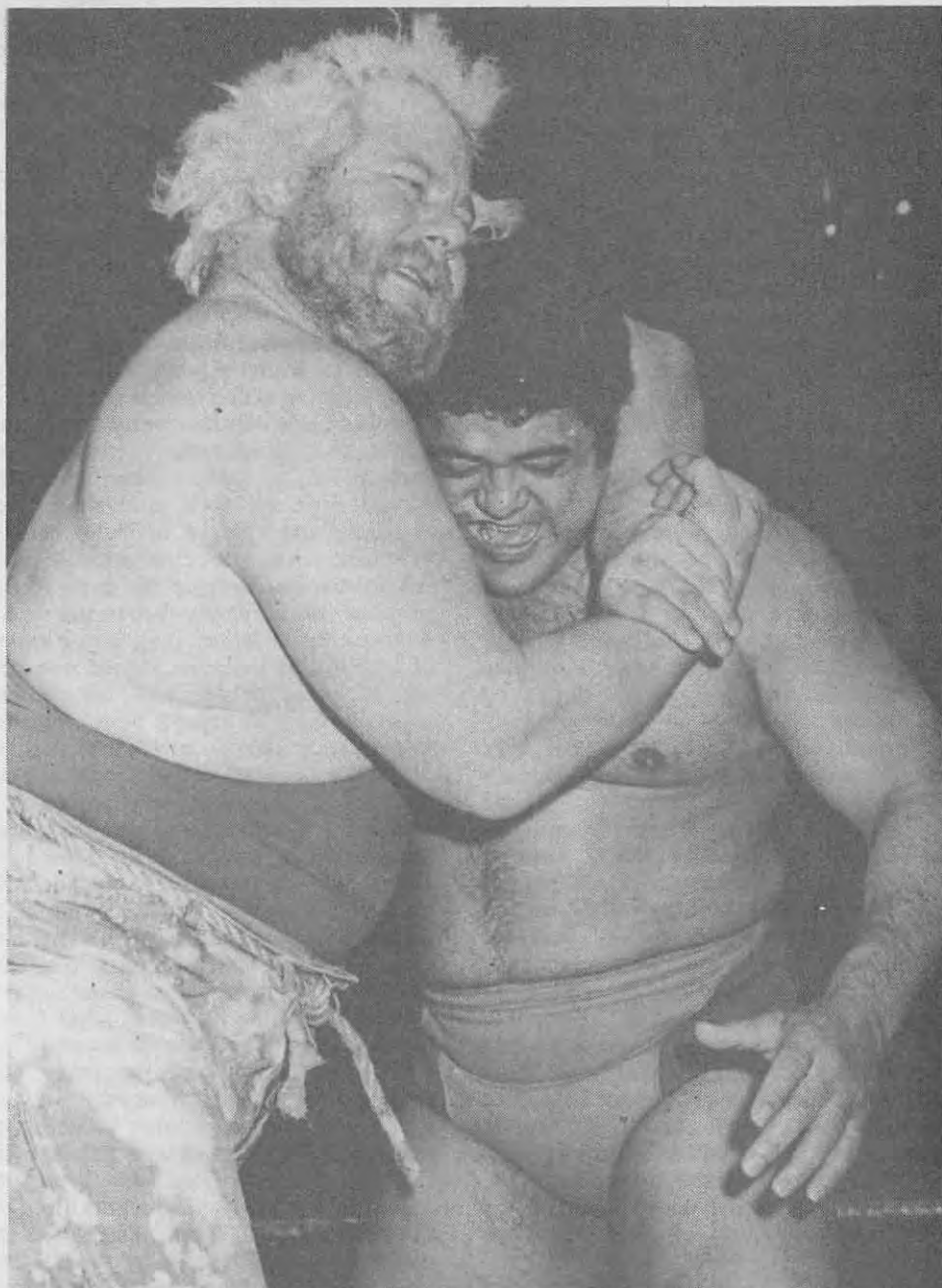
And, too, there was that last match of the day.

It all began when The Moon Dogs, trundled in by a storming Albano, crashed upon the arena with a howl and a promise of blood, in answer to which the crowd screeched a groin-deep loathing. The bell finally bit into the screams, as Rex and Dom met up in a mighty collision center ring. Starting off in a referee's hook-up, from where neither would budge, they fused hands in a hard-bitten show of strength. Locked together, each trembled with exertion, but would not give 'way to the other. Finally, Rex cracked the impasse with a low blow, when he shot his thick knee far into DeNucci's under-belly. As the gutsy Italian crumpled to the floor in sickly, slow-motion movements, the Dog elbow-slammed his opponent's head deep into the mat's floor and, then, snatched a fat handful of Dom's hair, yanked him up and soundly shoved DeNucci into the far ropes. Coming off the ropes, Dominick was beckoned into the bone-shattering clasp of Rex, who followed this up with a masterful and singularly superb suplex. Slinging himself from the ropes, Rex flew into a thundering flying body press. The Italian Time Bomb, however, was having none of it. He rolled from under the flying Dog

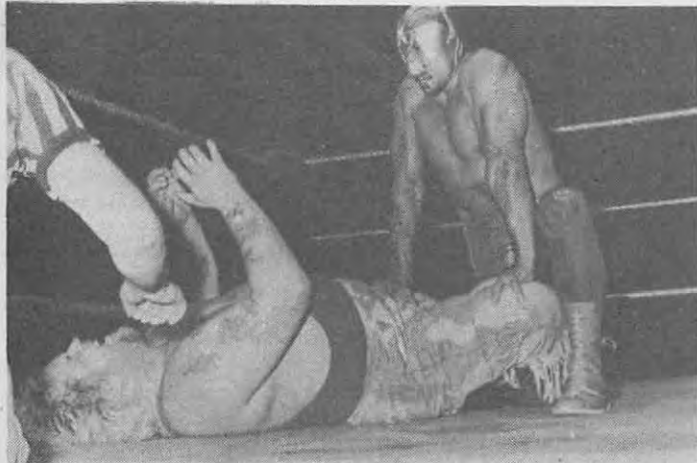
and, -in the feisty, "Let's give him a lick of his own medicine" spirit that so well explains him,- Dom promptly countered by bestowing his own teeth-jarring big splash. Screwed deep into the mat, from where it seemed he might never again move, Rex was covered for the pin. The ref, huge Mike Torres, -himself a former wrestler, -began the endless count. "1",... ..then "2",.....

Suddenly, like a sunken battleship breaking through the barnacled fathoms to roar to the surface of a swollen, angry sea, Rex powered out and dumped Dom atop the startled referee. Dashing to the corner, Rex tagged King. Bawdy with arrogance, King bellowed into the ring like a burning locomotive but, instead of mowing over a battle-weary Dom as had been his obvious intention, the burly beast found himself lifted high up and over his verry foe, in a beautifully-executed back-body-drop, blasting the mutt into the shuddering mat, Dom dove into his corner and made contact with his partner. Struggling up from the cloudy daze of his brief encounter with the guy from Italy, King was rammed again and, yet, again by a rapid-fire succession of superior and perfectly-positioned drop-kicks.

Then, on the seventh of this series, King pulled-off a truly ingenious counter by stepping back and catching the youngster in the steel vise of his broad paws. King lifted The Southern Angel far over his head and then hammered him down upon his barreled legs, into a fearsome back-breaker, in a display of strength which gave new meaning to the phrase "brute force". The Dog then hoisted McGraw to his feet, where he treated him to an agony of stunning hip-tosses and a really fine drop-kick. When Rick shot off the ropes, King shattered him with the shocking steel of his anvil-like shoulder-block. Raining a steady stream of South-pawed elbow smashes upon the boy, King lit to the top rope and soared into a glorious splash, so outrightly lethal in its intent that, in response, the big ring jumped a



Rex has Pedro Morales right where he wants him, held tightly in a side headlock.



Mil Mascaras makes King howl in pain with an excruciating leglock.



Rex punishes bitter rival Rick Martel with an elbow drive to the chest. The Moondogs won the W.W.F. Tag Team Title from Martel and partner Tony Garea.

foot to the left. However, when he arrived upon the withered mat, King was greatly surprised to find that, in imitation of his worthy partner, Rick had rolled over and out of the way of the killer Dog. Anger spat smoky shadows in his blood-frightened eyes, as the canine gripped McGraw, lifted him again over his bullet head and ran, torpedo-like, towards Rick, who raised his legs, causing the belligerent mongrel to take the full impact upon his yellow noggin. From there, McGraw arched his nimble legs over and down King's back and, in a really amazing show of strength, Rick tumbled his enemy into a wildly astounding sunset flip which, sadly, just wasn't enough to subdue the hulking animal beyond the count of two. It was then that Albano pulled off a needless and class-free deed by sinking his big, thonged foot into the young gladiator's back. With that, Dom took the tag from his battered partner and made his first order of business to butt the head, box the ears and kick the pants off the Captain, who forced his rolling bulk beneath the press table, to sit at my feet.

And so it went. At one memorable moment, Dom and Rick served the two villains with a limb-shredding, ring-around-rosy rowboat to the hind legs, which all but crippled the pair. Then, there was a stupefying leapfrog, which had the quartet ricocheting from all corners of the ring in a fine testimony to the outrageous agility possessed by each. To see men with the great bulk borne by The Moon Dogs able to soar, eagle-like, with majesty and punch is a chilling thrill and one I can never get over.

After testing a machine-gun repetition of just marvelous monkey-flips from the mightily-gifted McGraw, King was truly crowned when he again met up with the post in a collision which slumped his big body into a coil of pain. Rick laid firm hold upon the fallen King's tree-stump legs and carted him from under the roped into the center of the squared circle where, wonderously, Quick Draw thrust his head into King's groin, hoisted his own legs up and over, to form an awesome referee's bridge. Suddenly King lunged and caught Rick's throat within the clamp of his pointed teeth, while Rex further punished him with cruel elbow smashes that echoed around the gone-crazy arena. Scuzzed-out and sleazy, Albano slithered up from under the press table to lay his thick belt across Rick's belly, which was instantly scored by many horrible, blood-filled welts. The mangy duo followed this up by quartering the kid with a pulverizing wishbone upon his legs and arms.

It was precisely then that mayhem truly came to call.

With hell in his eyes, Dom plunged into the thick of the battle, his steaming temper fit to set fires around the hall. He snatched-up Albano's belt and made a pretty good pass at stuffing it, -buckle and all,- down Albano's throat. Then, McGraw and

DeNucci each took hold of a Dog, whipped him around the ring until they met up with each other in a head-on catastrophe. But, when the good guys tried to again hurtle the flea bags into another collision, the Dogs did an unexpected do-se-do, in which they repelled impact by linking arms and propelling each other into a spin, the momentum of which they used to charge their adversaries. With that, the animals effected separate, but equally dazzling, bull-dogs, from where they spilled their foes with sterling sidecar suplexes and, like an insane double exposure, each exploded off the ropes to plummet down in their perfectly fabulous flying body press. It was here all what had not really hit the fan. First, -stupidly,- Albano hurled the timekeeper's chair into the ring, which was very unsporting of him, particularly in view of the fact that Freddie, the timekeeper, happened to be sitting in his chair when the Captain threw it. Dom battled out from under Rex, but not before giving the whelp something to remember him by which was delivered in the form of a really super punch in the nose.

After hustling poor Freddie out of harm's way DeNucci turned his murderous attentions upon the other mad Dog and, using the self-same chair, he thrashed King to within an inch of his life, persuading him to leave off the knocked-cold McGraw. With his remarkable patience at last exhausted, the referee finally threw up his hands, hotly censured the four as being "unfit and out of control", declaring the unholy way ended on a double-d-q.

Oh, I was flying high, all right, and feeling as if I'd like to go on, just driving up this road with these highs to keep me company, for at least the rest of my life.

But eventually everything must end so, several miles that side of Hartford, we touched-down upon a Halloween-orange arc in the road, which appears innocent enough but is actually one of the many bad-guy hide-outs that rip wildly throughout the territory.

Waiting at the wide door of the hotel's formal dining room stood Tracey, her wide smile a greeting, which is one reason she is our favorite waitress. (If truth be told, Tracey is also our only waitress; when we walk in, the others usually walk out.) Seconds after the arrival of my strange cargo, Tracy was straining under the weight of huge platters of fat, unusually rare meat, as swim in their own steamy pool of red drippings. After being given a pitcher of a peculiar, plum-covered beverage, Albano went off to indulge himself in one of his most favorite of all pastimes. Positioning himself upon the revolving salad bar, -somewhere amid the vats of sliced cucumbers and bacon bits,- while slowly revolving around in a wide circle, he likes to steal food off tables or, what's ever so much more fun, he enjoys plucking morsels right out of the hands of dumb-founded diners, all the while

growling at those out of his reach.

Next to my always present coffee, sat a delectable jumble of fried clams but, with my mind so up, it was difficult to pay much attention to something as ordinary as an empty belly.

The Moon Dogs, of course, can't be interviewed: there are no endearing recollections to relate, no funny tales to tell. They simply are, -a fact you'd best believe.

Because they don't talk for themselves, the Captain must speak for them, -a job he's taken on with a vengeance. But, here, in my article, I think I'll take on that honor unto myself. And, by the way, make no mistake about it, it is an honor.

I am happy that The Moon Dogs have come to stay in my territory and, what's more, I am even glad that they now wear the Championship belts. Like it or not, every title won must, sooner or later, be lost. If Tony Garea and Rick Martel, -hot pistols, both,- had to fall, let's rejoice that it was to this infinitely talented, -if kinky,- duo. To prove how razor-sharp they really are, the arena comedians will go on forever exclaiming how, with Rex and King here, wrestling's gone to the Dogs. Smile, if you must, but don't really listen. Instead try, try very hard to see beyond the bones, the barks, the bites and all the rest of the ballyhoo. Beneath it all lies one, basic truth: when they step into the ring, The Moon Dogs become grandly-inspired grapplers. These two uniquely embrace that rarest of all combinations: massive weight, sensational strength, with an aerialistic skill that is simply phenomenal. And, running alongside all of this there is an enchanting "can't catch me" indomitability, which sets these Champs over and above everyone else.

Now, think about it and try to name which others bring so much to a match. This turns out to be a surprisingly tough question; -doesn't it?

And, as for their personalities, -well, no, I can't imagine that there'll ever come a time when we three -The Moon Dogs and myself,- will sit around in our pajammies, toasting marshmallows and getting into all the other fun stuff that best buddies are supposed to share. But, what of it?

Once too often, I've suffered the experience of suddenly realizing that the thick, sweet syrup of Mr. Charisma's cutesy smile is nothing more than a piddle-poor attempt to cover-up a wrestling know-how that, in a word, stinks. Thanks, but no thanks.

I love my sport and want nothing more than to see wrestling exhibited with class and style. Deep dimples... heart warming "Aw, shucks" speeches,asinine grins count for nothing and certainly have no place within the squared circle.

So, -sincerely,- welcome this, The Age Of The Dogs. Here's wishing Rex and King a long, long reign. ■

"WILDFIRE" TOMMY RICH'S RETURN

By Jay West

The fans in the TV wrestling arena were surprised when the Georgia Championship Wrestling show didn't start with the usual introduction of host Gordon Solie. Instead, it started with a video tape of a young blonde man getting into his sports car and turning onto Interstate 75 headed south. The young man put a cassette into the car's tape player and the Willie Nelson song "On the Road Again" began to play. As the young man began to speak over the music, the fans at the WTBS studio went wild as they realized the voice belonged to Tommy Rich. The video tape ended and Gordon Solie announced that "Wildfire" Tommy Rich would indeed be returning to Georgia Championship Wrestling the following week. The program then went to a commercial break. During the break the TV wrestling fans were talking among themselves, elated over the fact that Tommy was coming back.

Tommy left Georgia in the late summer of 1980 giving no indication as to when he might return. He told the Georgia fans at that time that he felt he needed to leave Georgia because he had let the fans and himself down. He was referring to the fact that he had wrestled World Champion Harley Race three times at the Omni in Atlanta for the title that summer and on each occasion he had failed. Prior to the third title match, Tommy was so sure of the outcome that he had "retired" the National TV Championship that he had fought so hard for. Tommy's mother was at ringside during that third world title match. During the match Race threatened Tommy's mother and Tommy went berserk and bloodied Race outside the ring. The referee finally had to disqualify Tommy when he couldn't get Tommy off the champion. Tommy decided to return to his hometown of Nashville, Tennessee. Promoter Jerry Jarrett quickly signed Tommy to a contract to wrestle in the Tennessee-Kentucky area.

Tommy had been in Georgia for three years, and he found it more difficult to warm up to the Tennessee fans than he had expected. He decided that maybe it was time to change his ring tactics and press harder for victories and worry less about how the fans felt toward him. Over the winter months he won most of his matches, but he admitted that he wasn't proud of how he had won some of them. Finally Tommy was as disappointed with his wrestling efforts in Tennessee as he had been in Georgia. His mother and some of his friends suggested that he clean up his act and return to the style that had gained him so much popularity in Georgia. Tommy decided to give it a try and he found that the fans were once again

cheering him and asking for his autograph. He was winning matches and he was proud of his sportsman like efforts. He was so rejuvenated that by the beginning of March 1981 he was ready to return to Georgia.

Tommy contacted promoter Paul Jones and agreed to send a tape giving the Georgia fans some information about why he left and when he would be returning. That was the video tape that the TV fans had just viewed.

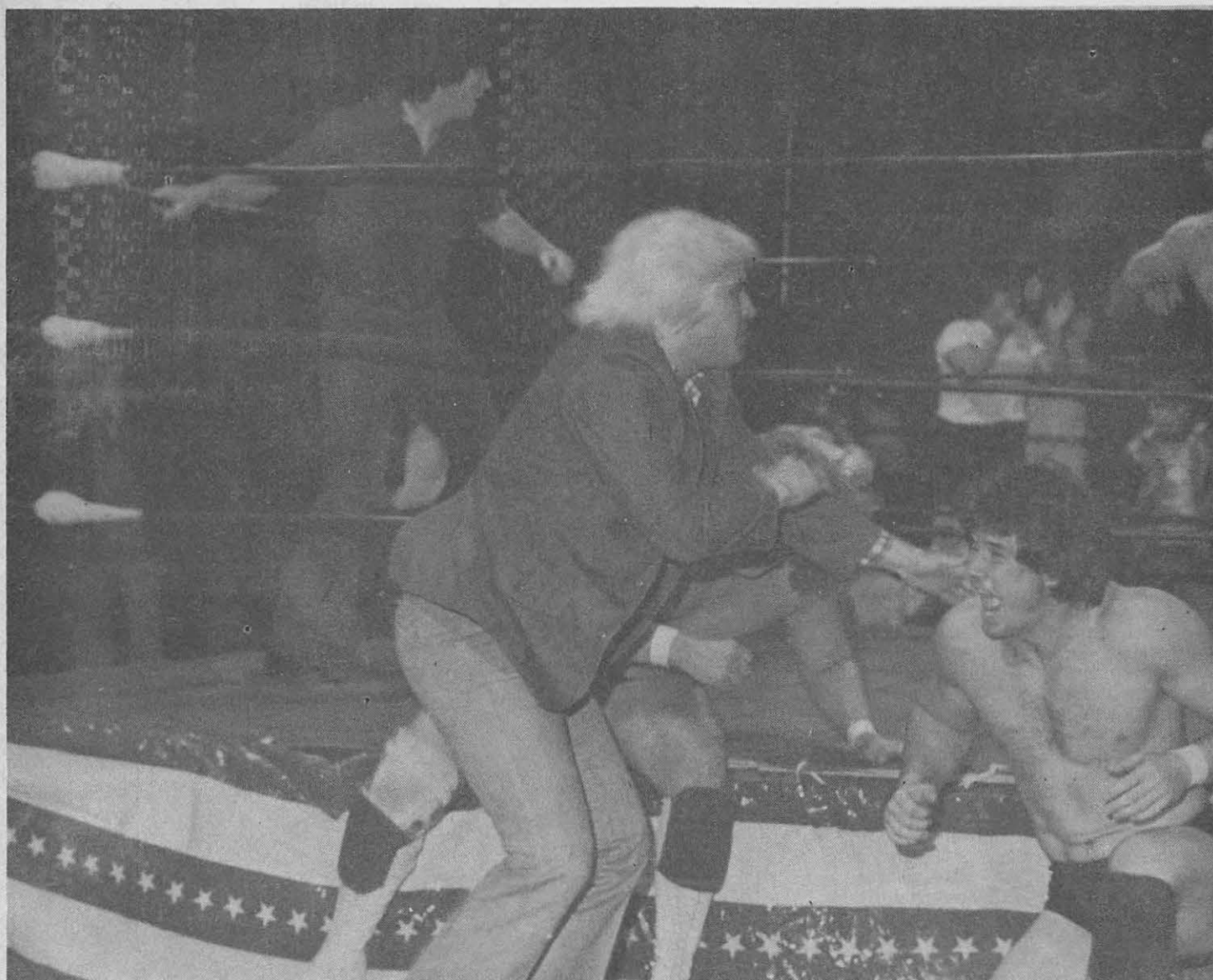
After the commercial break the fans attention returned to the present as the team of Steve O. and Steve Keirn took on the Georgia tag team champs, The Fabulous Freebirds. The match went about six minutes before the Freebirds dirty tactics began to take their toll. After more than a minute of triple teaming Steve Keirn, Keirn tagged in Steve O. The referee had his back turned to the

Freebirds as he helped Steve Keirn to his corner. The Freebirds threw Steve O. over the ropes to the hard concrete floor and just as Terry Gordy was setting Steve O. up for a pile driver, Tommy Rich raced from the dressing room to help even up the score. Rich jumped into the ring after breaking up the piledriver and he definitely made his presence known to Gordy, Michael Hayes and Buddy Roberts. The fans cheered Tommy on and the Freebirds retreated.

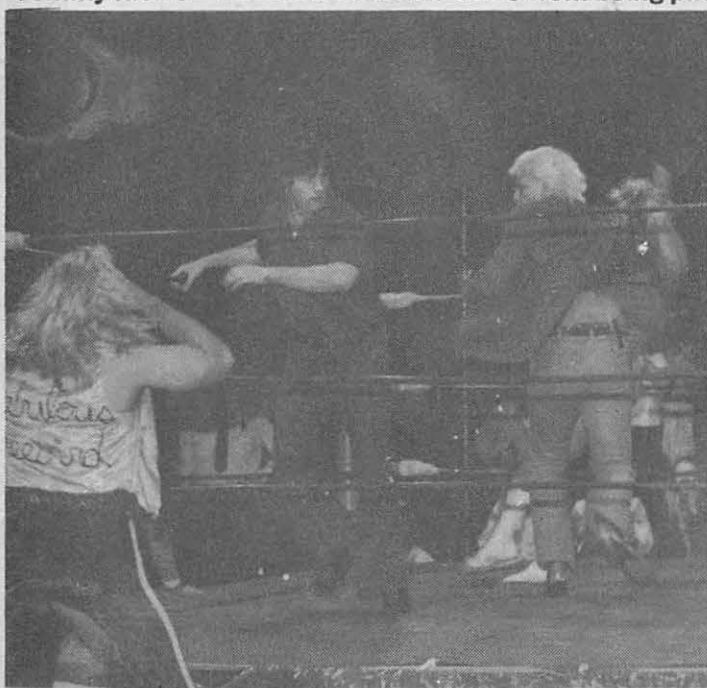
Gordon Solie called Tommy to the mike. Tommy explained that even though he hadn't planned to officially return to TV until the following week, he had decided to return to the TV studio this day to renew old acquaintances. Tommy told Gordon he was back to stay. The fans cheered and everyone was elated about "Wildfire's" return to Georgia; everyone that is, except the Fabulous Freebirds.



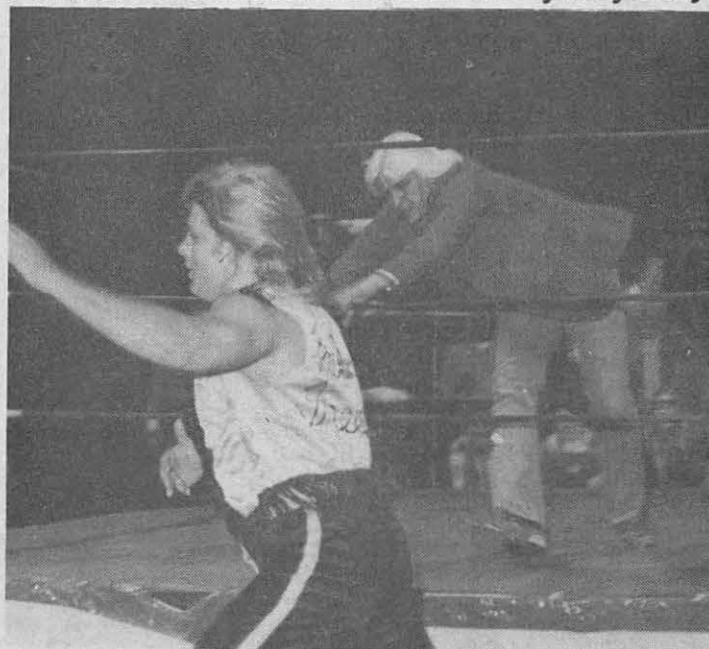
Tommy "Wildfire" Rich is interviewed by Gordon Solie upon his return to the Georgia wrestling scene.



Tommy Rich's interference saved Steve O from being piledriven head first on the concrete studio floor by Terry Gordy.



Tommy starts to clear the ring of The Freebirds as the fans go wild.



Michael Hayes decides to beat a hasty retreat as Tommy turns his attention onto him.

A LOOK AT THE SAN ANTONIO WRESTLING SCENE AND ITS TOP STARS

Photos By Norman Powers

By Kathy Dowd

From San Antonio to Austin; from Albuquerque to Corpus Christi; from Pueblo to Colorado Springs, and to many other places in the Southwestern part of the United States, wrestling fans are privileged to see some of the most exciting, dangerous and action-packed wrestling ever known to the world.

Mat personalities that can be seen in action on a regular basis in this area include great Indian star Wahoo McDaniel, Nick Bockwinkel, The Funk brothers — Dory, Jr. and Terry — Tully Blanchard, Scott Casey, Ricky Romero, Eddie "Continental Lover" Mansfield, Chavo Guerrero, Black Gordman, Tank Patton, Larry Lane, Ivan Putski, Rick Youngblood and others too numerous to mention.

No matter if they are a rookie like Youngblood, or veterans like Wahoo or Bockwinkel, every match emulating from the San Antonio Booking Office will be of interest to watch. The action is fast and furious; the talent is both new and experienced, every match has fans on the edge of their seats for the entire evening.

Let's, for a minute, look at several of the top stars who are now appearing in this circuit.

Wahoo McDaniel: This man really needs no introduction as every true wrestling fan knows how exciting Wahoo is in the ring. The man has wrestled all over the world. Once his Tomahawk Chops start slashing away, fans know that the match will soon be over, and he will once again be victorious in the battle. He not only excels in wrestling, but also at golf and hunting.

Tully Blanchard: This young man from San Antonio is on the rise to fame and fortune in the wrestling business. He calls himself "The Kid" and believe me, when he walks into the ring people boo as loud as they can. He will do anything to win a match — from kicking to choking. He's held the Southwestern Heavyweight Championship on numerous occasion and currently he reigns supreme with the title. He has been tag team partners with the best — Funk brothers, Abdullah the Butcher and Eddie Mansfield. Watch this young man blossom in the 80's as a top star in the wrestling game.

Tom Jones: This very popular black wrestler has appeared in numerous area's including Georgia and L.A. Tom Jones has the support of many loyal wrestling followers in the southwestern area.

Scott Casey: He has traveled the world over but prefers the Texas scene. His best move is the famed Sleeper hold, and once his victim is secure in it, fans know that this cowboy has won again.

Nick Bockwinkel: Like McDaniel, he needs no introduction as he is well known from the east coast to the west coast, and everywhere else in between. His claim to fortune is that he has been both the A.W.A. World Heavyweight and Tag Team Championship of the world. He may not be



Wahoo McDaniel tries to recover after being tossed out of the ring by arch-rival Gino Hernandez.



Moments later Wahoo got a bit of revenge when he wrapped a ringside chair around Gino's throat.

liked by the majority of fans, but he does have a following of dedicated fans.

Chavo Guerrero: He's a second generation wrestler. His father was a top flight wrestler and so is he. Chavo does many spectacular aerial maneuvers, and once he has his opponent worn down he goes in for the pin.

Eddie Mansfield: He calls himself the "Continental Lover" and he has shown the world that he has arrived, and is no pushover. With or without a partner, Mansfield has the ability which will some day take him to the top of the heap of wrestling. You may not like him, but never will his matches be boring or dull. He has color, and his best move is the "Continental Crunch" according to the Lover. Basically most would refer to it as a piledriver, but leave it up to Eddie to come up with the "Crunch". Watch this young man rise to fame in the 80's, and watch the San Antonio area be responsible for getting him to the top.

Ricky Romero: This man is likely the most popular Mexican wrestler to ever appear out of the San Antonio area. No matter where he goes, Ricky draws record number of supporters who want to see him win. Again, like Casey, Romero's best move is the Sleeper, and it seems to work for him every time. Romero, like Eddie Mansfield even though they are on opposite sides of the ring, has a lot of color to him. He enters the ring attired in fancy jackets and sombrero's.

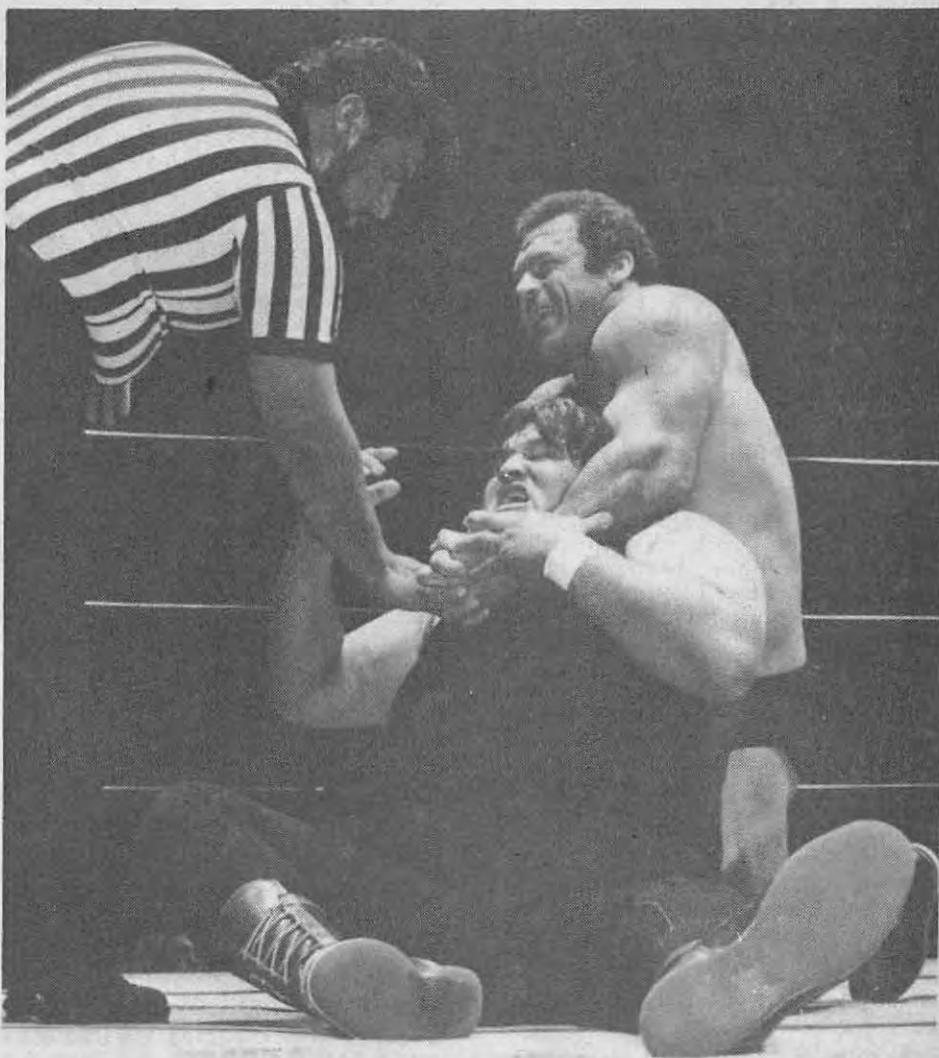
Ivan Putski: The Polish strongman, who shows what he is going to do, and does it right. At one time he was one half of the tag team championship out in the W.W.F. area with Tito Santana and they did a great job defending the title against many top tag teams of the '70's.

Larry Lane: Up until just recently this wrestler was well received by the fans, but like many before him and many after him, he has turned to the cheating side. Knowing of his excelling amateur background in wrestling and his desire to win no matter how, people had better be aware that Mr. Lane may pull off one of the biggest coups in San Antonio wrestling, and go all the way to the top with this change of style.

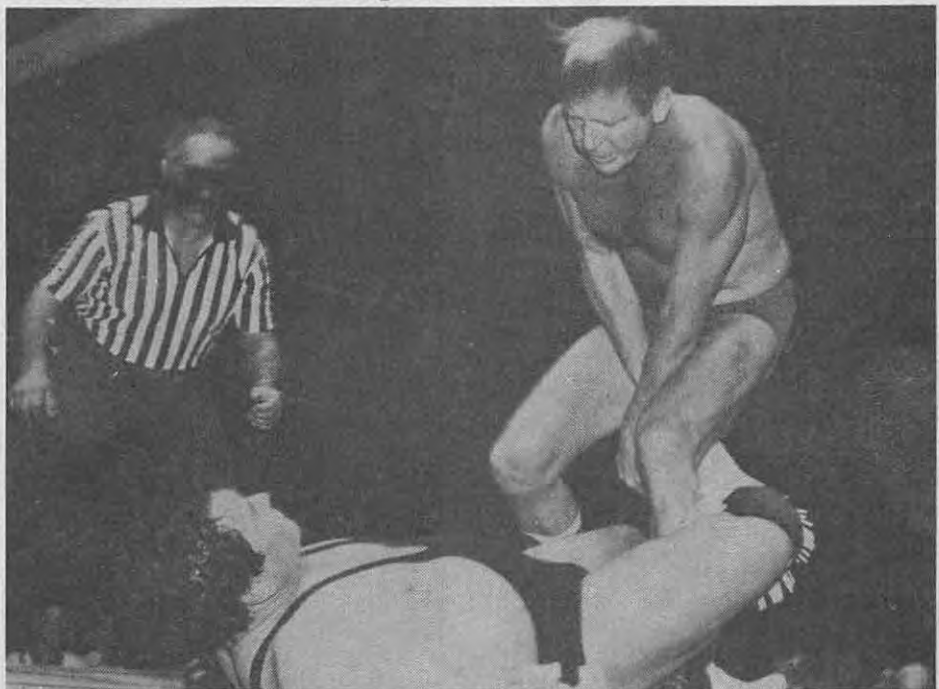
Tank Patton: This former high school football player turned pro wrestler indeed has soared from openers to main events in this part of the country, and he's still going strong. He has a rugged style and it works for him. Take caution: Don't mess with Tank unless you want trouble. He's big and strong, and won't hesitate to work over his opponents until they have to be carried out on a stretcher.

Something unique about this area of wrestling is the variety of matches which are signed among the different wrestlers. They have ranged from strap matches to Texas death matches; from chain matches to no disqualification matches; from bullrope matches to pole matches; from coal miner glove matches to bounty matches; from cage matches to cast matches; from single matches to tag team matches; and from midget matches to the ultimate matches — the championship matches.

Such promoters like former wrestler Joe Blanchard, who currently promotes in San Antonio at the HemisFair Arena, should be



One of the most popular stars wrestling in the Southwest is "Polish Power" Ivan Putski, seen here working over Bull Ramos.



Dory Funk Jr. makes Wahoo McDaniel suffer with a spinning leglock, their area matches have been real classics.

congratulated on putting together top package matches of this caliber. Since at one time he wrestled in the ring, Mr. Blanchard knows that to draw in the people, a promoter must use only the very best in the business, and indeed he is doing just that.

Another unique aspect of this booking office is the variety of top stars, that they are flying in from all different areas to wrestle on their cards. Nick Bockwinkel is the prime example. Here is a wrestler that held the A.W.A. World Heavyweight Championship title for nearly five years and was on the road regularly defending it against the best that A.W.A. promoters could come up with. Then in his spare time came into the Southwest and defended the coveted title against the likes of Wahoo McDaniel, Scott Casey, Tom Jones and others who all wanted a crack at the belt.

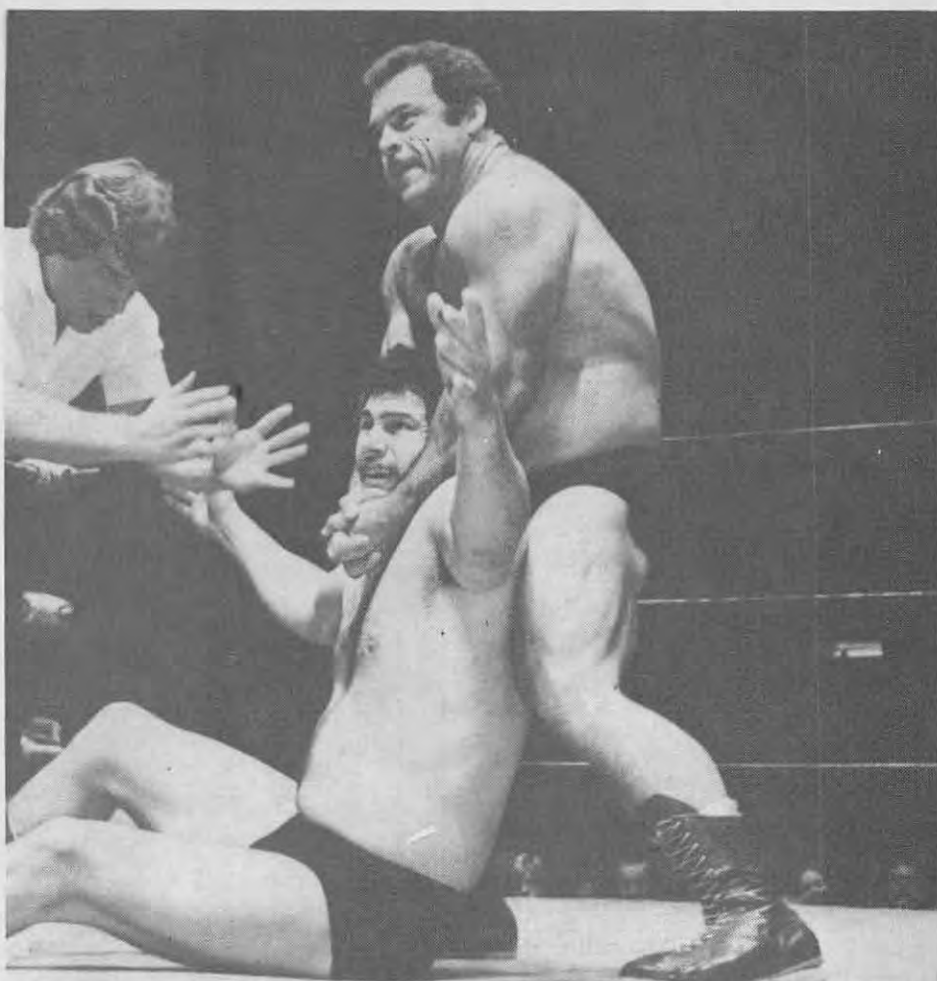
Other wrestlers who have made their way into Southwest Championship Wrestling territory have included Abdullah the Butcher, Tommy "Wildfire" Rich, Mr. Wrestling No. 2, Ernie Ladd, Killer Karl Kox, Andre the Giant and Mad Dog Vachon.

Tommy Rich, also looking for a title shot against Bockwinkel, came in but it was too late as Verne Gagne had already did what everyone was hoping to do, dethrone Nick. Regardless though, Tommy did an outstanding job, and was well received by the fans. Many hope to see him return soon.

Vachon made a special trip into the southwest area just to do battle with the then-champion Nick Bockwinkel. The Mad Dog promised that when he returned to professional wrestling, after a short retirement, that no matter where it would be — Denver, St. Louis, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Bombay, India or Colorado Springs, Colorado — he would dethrone the champion and show the people a real champion. And the Montreal matman did just that!! He traveled into southern Colorado to meet and do battle with Nick. But he lost his temper and threw Bockwinkel over the top rope.

Anyone that follows wrestling closely knows how important television is to the professional wrestling business and San Antonio has one of the, if not the very best, TV shows in the world today. Whenever and wherever, only the best and most professional action can be seen by thousands of people all over the world on Southwest Championship Wrestling.

Take for instance the incident several months ago between Wahoo McDaniel and arch foe Tully Blanchard. The advantage seesawed back and forth, and finally Wahoo took command. He was showing up the younger, less experienced man. After several minutes of very fast paced action, Tully decided that he had had enough of the Native American's attack and started pulling some dirty tactics. He choked, he kicked, and he mauled the veteran to no return. Wahoo, though, gained some advantage and the two began slugging it out before millions of viewers. That is until Tully decided that he would be safer outside the ring, and he bailed out. McDaniel felt different and assisted him back into the ring without the young man's



Gary Young tries to hold as Putski starts to make use of some of his awesome strength, his muscles are like steel!



Native Texan Scott Casey scores a fall over Hernandez by making him submit to an abdominal stretch hold.

approval. The end came when Blanchard hit Wahoo from his blind side and pinned him. Tully told the crowd that "The Kid" was the best wrestler ever seen in the southwest area. The crowd booed.

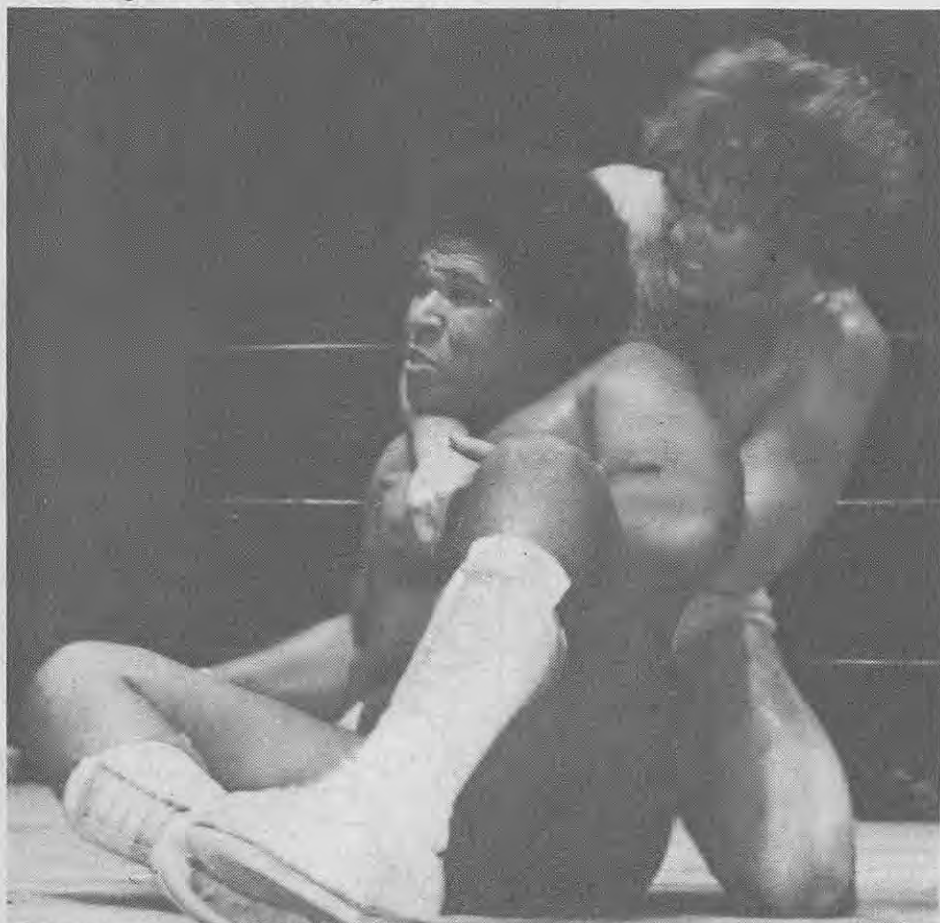
Another exciting feud that has developed over TV is the Tom Jones-Spoiler matches. Spoiler had offered anyone \$1,000.00 if they could break his famous claw hold. Well, Tom Jones said that he could, and they set a TV date so many fans could witness it. The rules were set by Spoiler himself. The most important rule of all was that if the person couldn't break the claw in the time allotted, they just wouldn't get the money. Tom Jones agreed to these rules and the match began. For a while the people thought that maybe Tom Jones could break the claw, as several times the expression on Spoilers face (even though he wore a mask) looked as though he knew Jones was getting loose. Finally Jones almost escaped. The masked man brought out a roll of nickels and knocked Jones cold. He applied the claw more viciously and brutal than before. Tom Jones was in big trouble. His face was caked with the blood that Spoiler had drawn from him. Several wrestlers, including Scott Casey and Ricky Romero, came to his aid from the dressing rooms. For most people this match is one they would have wanted to forget, but not Jones. He broke into his rival's dressing room and began fighting with Spoiler. Soon they were back in the ring. Finally Spoiler broke away from Jones and exited back to the safety of the dressing room.

Something else that this booking office

TV show offers is that not only are the matches taped in English, but they are also taped in Spanish by the very upcoming and popular SIN (Spanish International Network) Channel 41 out of San Antonio, Texas. SIN reaches 50 cable markets. Soon the people will think of this network as they do now of Ted Turners' Atlanta Channel 17, but it will be reaching the people in Spanish instead of English. Victor Rivera, who is the Spanish speaking commentator for SIN and wrestling, does an extremely excellent job.

For the English speaking audience, they have at the mike the very capable and knowledgeable Gene Goodson. Throughout TV wrestling, on the commercials, fans are privileged to see Goodson do different promo's for North Central Ford in San Antonio. Many fans just watch wrestling to see Gene in action. This writer was impressed with the promo that he did as Whistler's Grandma in a Ford truck. It didn't deal with wrestling, but like all of his promo's, it kept me laughing while I waited for wrestling to return. Wrestling in San Antonio is very lucky to have both Gene Goodson and Victor Rivera at their mikes.

Considering the exciting action packed matches, the greatest mat stars appearing for the booking office in San Antonio, a very well done television show, and the variety of unusual & exceptionally good matches, indeed then Southwest Championship Wrestling must be a top contender for the number one wrestling circuit today.



Tully Blanchard has Tiger Conway Jr. tied neatly during a battle between the two second generation wrestlers.

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DICK MURDOCH AND THE JUNKYARD DOG END UP WITH MID SOUTH TAG TEAM TITLE

By James C. Melby

The Mid South Tag Team Title has been too hot to handle as of late it seems. Back on March 30th, matchmaker Grizzly Smith assigned Cowboy Bill Watts to act as a special referee when Ernie Ladd and "Bad Bad" LeRoy Brown defended their belts against the combination of The Junkyard Dog and Dick Murdoch. Watts, admitted that he didn't care for Ladd and Brown, but promised to call the match as he saw it.

The bout was a wild one with Dick and JYD getting the victory. Ladd and Brown went with films of the match to Mid South Wrestling Association President Freddie Miller, protesting Watts' participation. Miller ruled that Watts shouldn't have been sanctioned as the third man, and was going to return the title to Ladd and Brown. Grizzly Smith argued with Miller and said that if the title was going to be taken away from the Dog and Murdoch, then it should be put up for grabs in a tournament.

So on April 18th a nine team

tournament was held in the New Orleans Superdome. First round action saw some real surprises. The newly formed combination of The Super Destroyer and The Grappler edged Jake Roberts and Jim Garvin, Andre The Giant and Dusty Rhodes toppled The Samoans, Ladd and Brown overwhelmed Tony Charles and Don Diamond, The Fabulous Freebirds beat Col. Buck Robley's team, and Murdoch and The Junkyard Dog advanced with a bye.

The 2nd round also saw an upset when the masked duo of The Grappler and S.D. defeated The Giant and Rhodes. This was the first time Dusty and Andre have ever lost a team match. I might add that it was only accomplished after manager Frank Dusek threw something in Rhodes' eyes. Murdoch and The Junkyard Dog eliminated The Freebirds.

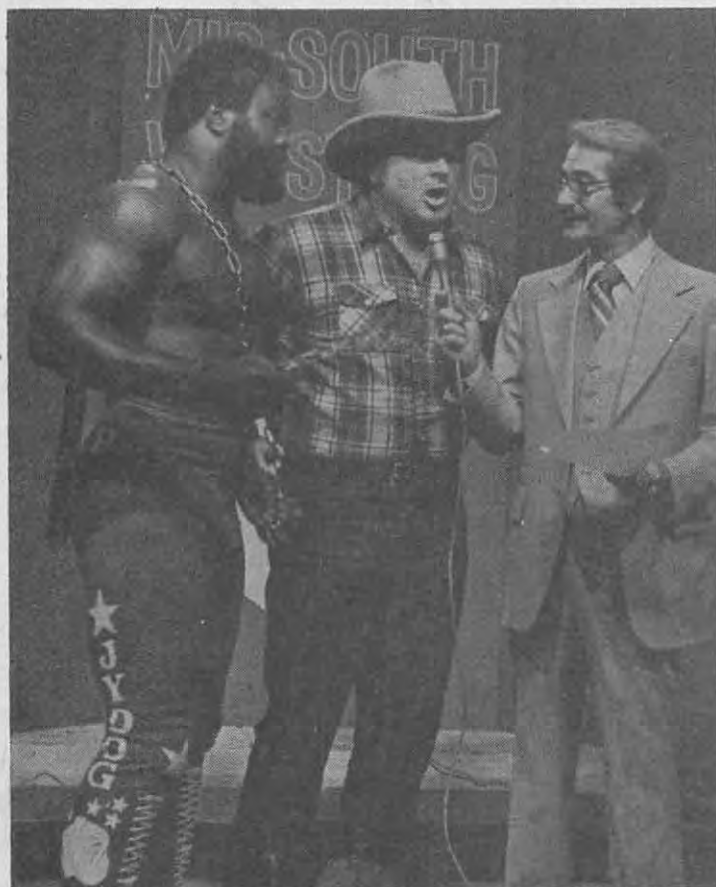
The next round saw Dick and JYD prove that they were no fluke, when they eliminated Ladd and Brown.

The final match pitted them against

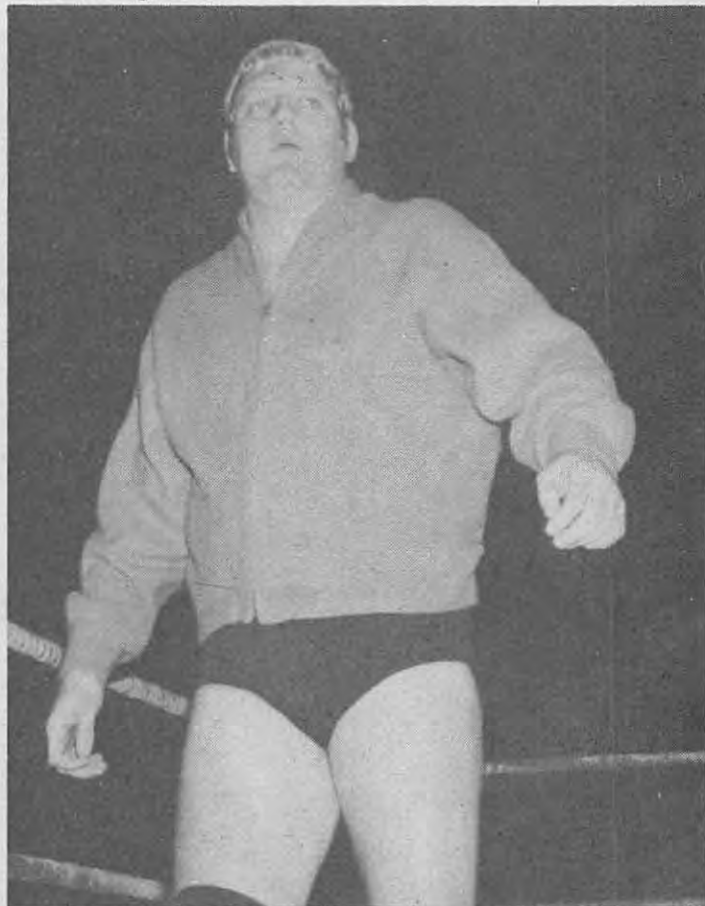
The Grappler and The Super Destroyer. It looked as if the title was once more going to be in the hands of Dick and the Dog. All of sudden a third masked man rushed out of the dressing room and attacked The Junkyard Dog while the referee was being distracted. A jump off the top rope by this mysterious intruder left Junkyard injured and easily pinned.

Many felt that Dusek's third masked man was none other than Ernie Ladd! "The Cat" has denied it, and has threatened to sue The Mid South Wrestling Association if any charges are brought against him without proof.

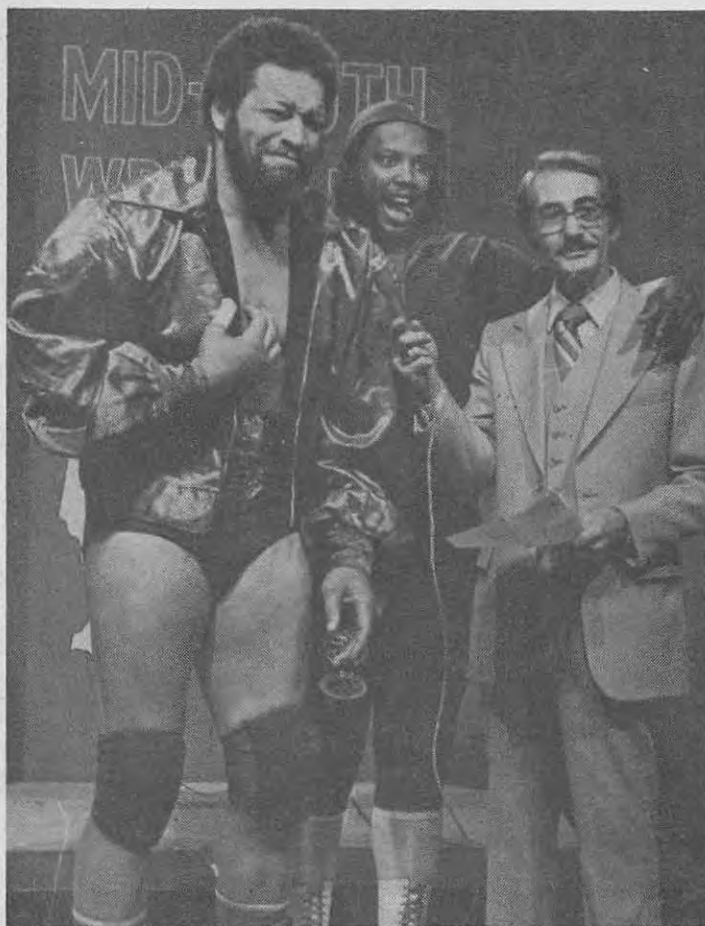
Grizzly Smith decided that under the circumstances Murdoch and JYD should get another chance at the masked duo for the title. A steel cage match was set for April 27th in New Orleans, eliminating the possibility of interference from Dusek or a third masked man. Much to the delight of the sellout crowd, Dick Murdoch and The Junkyard Dog took the match and the title belts in the cage showdown.



Cowboy Bill Watts explained to Reisor Bowden and The Junkyard Dog during an interview that he intended to be an impartial referee for the Mid South Title bout.



On paper "Redneck" Dick Murdoch and The Junkyard Dog seem to be a very unlikely tag team combination, but when the rowdy Texan joined the Dog, they went all the way to the title.



Ernie "Cat" Ladd and "Bad Bad" LeRoy Brown seen here during an interview with Reisor Bowden, had controlled the tag team scene for quite some time in Louisiana and Mississippi.



The Samoans had been very successful under the guidance of Captain Lou Albano, having held the W.W.F. Tag Team Title. They didn't fare as well by themselves in the tournament for the Mid South Tag Team Championship.



One of the biggest upsets in the tag team tournament held in the New Orleans Superdome occurred when The Grappler and The Super Destroyer handed Dusty Rhodes and Andre The Giant their first loss ever as a team.



Rumor has it that The Fabulous Freebirds had not only entered the tournament for the prize money, but also in hopes of crippling The Junkyard Dog to win a big bonus from Ernie Ladd.

AN INTERVIEW WITH TED DiBIASE

By T. J. Turner



On Feb. 6, 1981, Harley Race celebrated his fourth anniversary as National Wrestling Alliance World Heavyweight Champion. That night he barely kept his crown against Missouri State Champion Ted DiBiase. Wrestling Magazine now brings you some dialogue with the Missouri king about his career thus far and his thoughts concerning another bout with Race.

Q: We welcome you to this interview Ted. Is it not true that you came from a mat family?

A: That is correct. My father is the late Mike DiBiase. His ring name was given to him by a lot of the fans, that of "Iron Mike". He wrestled professionally for, I'd say, a good 20 years and he died wrestling. He gave his life for his profession. He died in the ring in Lubbock, Texas on July 2,

1969. He died of a heart attack. My mother was also a wrestler, until she met my father. So you can very easily see how I was led into the sport.

Q: Just how did you get started?

A: When my father died, I was 15 years old. I went to Arizona and finished high school. I went to West Texas State University. I gave up a scholarship at the University of Arizona and took one at West Texas State to play football. That way, I could be close to the Funk Family, who I've known for a great deal of time. I knew that being around them and under their guidance would be that first step into professional wrestling. After getting out of school, I went to Louisiana and broke in professionally in the summer of 1975.

Q: Can you trace your career from Louisiana, in 1975 to St. Louis in 1981?

A: Well, I wrestled in Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mississippi for a

good year, I'd say. I was voted Rookie of the Year in 1975. I left that area and went on my first tour of Japan, which was very successful. From Japan, I went back to Texas for a short while, then into the Kansas City area, which brought me to St. Louis the first time. I stayed in this area, again, for a short while, then I returned to Texas. I moved on to New York and had a very good stay there for over a year. I left New York and returned to Louisiana, where I started in the business. From that time on, I've been in and out of St. Louis all the time.

I've started doing a great deal of traveling around the country and the world, regardless of where I'm based. Currently, I'm wrestling out of the Atlanta area, but again, I'm doing a lot of traveling. That tells me that things are starting to look up as far as my career is concerned. Other promotions are wanting

me and want to see me on their cards. I'm getting better matches all the time, so I'm happy.

Q: February 11, 1978: You found yourself in a very fortunate position. Dick Murdoch was slated to wrestle for the Missouri title against Dick Slater. You were thrust into that slot when Murdoch missed plane connections and you burst into the limelight by snatching the valuable state crown. How did you feel, going into a title match you hadn't prepared for?

A: I've had it said to me many times. Along with being talented and being a deserving contender, a lot of times you just have to have good luck. I was just at the right place at the right time. Dick Murdoch failed to show. A title match was scheduled. They needed someone to take his place. I happened to be there and I was the most suitable person to meet Dick Slater. The excitement of it was just fantastic. The thing is, it was just as big a surprise to Slater as it was to me. He was geared to wrestle Dick Murdoch, not Ted DiBiase. And Murdoch, at that time, was someone Slater knew a little more about. I had that to my advantage going into the match. Consequently, I won that match and became the Missouri Champion.

Q: Twice you defended the Missouri belt, both against Murdoch. The first ended in a 20-minute draw, although most observers felt you were well ahead of your challenger. But on Feb 25, two weeks after you beat Slater, Murdoch gave you a suplex slam on the concrete floor and took the title from you. What happened? Why did you lose the rematch?

A: Well, that's a good question. How do you lose any match? Sometimes it's a matter of not being prepared. Sometimes you second guess yourself. But in this case, I don't feel that I out and out lost. I'm not saying this boastfully, but I think 90 percent of that match was in my favor. If you'd asked anyone in that auditorium when the decision came down, I don't think anyone would say it was a just one. I don't feel like Murdoch defeated me, but then again, you don't cry over spilled milk. That's the way it goes. That's the way the cookie crumbles. Sometimes you're going to get decisions you're not happy with. You just have to pick yourself up and keep going, which I did. And here I am, once again the Missouri Champion.

Q: You regained the state honor Nov. 21, 1980 by stopping Ken Patera. On the east coast, you lost a championship to Pat Patterson under questionable circumstances. Patterson was then topped by Patera. Does this imply that you have improved substantially during the past year?

A: In any professional sport, there's an old saying that any team can win on any given day. I don't know if I've improved that much. Maybe I have. But I'm not the one who should judge that. Each new year that comes around, I stop and ask myself,

are you any better than you were last year at this time. So far, I feel like I have improved each year I've been in wrestling. I don't want to go into how I lost to Pat Patterson. I don't feel it was a just loss, but then again, they don't ask how, just who. I feel I proved myself against Patera. I went to a time-limit draw with him Oct. 3 and I had him hurt. I went ahead and defeated him in our next match. That tells me I'm improving. I'm the first one to admit that there is no way I can ever match Patera physically. The man is a enormously strong individual and you can't approach him thinking you're going to overpower him because that's just impossible. Of course, that's never been my theory. As far as muscular structure goes, I am not a huge man. I'm tall and I'm lanky and I depend on my wrestling skills, my endurance and my speed to overcome the lack of raw power. It's different for every individual, but I think I've done the right things for me and it's worked well thus far.

Q: In your first match against Patera last Oct. 3 at The Checkerdome in St. Louis, you did indeed have him in agony with the figure four leglock. How did you happen to develop this hold into such a potent maneuver for you?

A: I studied the Brisco brothers, Jack and Jerry and their use of the figure four leglock. Once again, because of my structure, I felt that if I studied this hold and learned to use it properly, it would become a tremendous hold for me because of my long legs. I'm a very long-legged person and anyone who follows wrestling at all knows that it takes long legs to get the proper leverage on the hold in order to make it painful enough to force a submission. Or even if you want to break somebody's leg with it. I thought I'd go ahead and give it a try. I did and it was successful for me. And anything that is successful for me I'm going to stick with it.

Q: The belly-to-back suplex has also been very successful for you. On Oct. 28, 1978, you and Paul Orndorff won a tag team decision from Bulldog Bob Brown and World Heavyweight Champion Harley Race when you used just that hold to pin the titleholder. What went through your mind following that victory?

A: My reaction was one of pure pandemonium. Even though I realized it was only a tag bout and I had to share the victory with a partner, the fact of the matter was that I had just pinned the heavyweight Champion of the World. It is the biggest little word in the world. If it had been in other circumstances, if he had been defending his title, I would have been the World Champion right there at that moment. What that told me was that I, Ted DiBiase, had the ability to pin the Heavyweight Champion of the World. It gave me a tremendous boost in morale and in my self confidence as a wrestler. It gave me a little more ammunition that one day, I will indeed become the World

Champion.

Q: Apparently it gave you all the ammunition you needed. On Feb. 6 of this year, Harley Race was disqualified in his title match with you for pitching you over the top rope. The referee had been knocked out of the ring and even though he saw the infraction, he was unable to immediately call for the disqualification. Before he could do so, you escaped a suplex attempt by Race in mid air and used another belly-to-back suplex. A second referee entered the ring and counted Race down and out. But before you could strap on the title belt, The original referee called for the bell to signal the disqualification, leaving you the winner but Race still the Champion. Are you, Ted DiBiase, now ready to win the championship?

A: Yes I am, I really am. Mentally, I have prepared myself to be under a lot of pressure for a long time, to be under the gun. I'm ready for the top matches, the hectic schedule, the loneliness of being the man on top. Once you become the best, once they put that belt around your waist, they say you have become the Heavyweight Champion of the World. There you stand alone. You're all by yourself. You come under that pressure because now everyone is gunning for you. It's not like wrestling once or twice a week. Everyone who comes across you now is going to be up, is going to be geared to fever pitch with one thing in mind and that is to defeat you. They are going to be prepared to give their finest match and that means you have to be at your best every time. I'd have to be on my toes all the time. Yes, I am ready. I pinned the man in a non-title tag match. I wrestled the man for the title and I won the match, but not the belt. But in that split second before the disqualification was called, I knew I was the new World Champion. I had just pinned Harley Race and the joy of being number one was something I'll never forget. I do not dispute the call. It was correct. Race did throw me over the ropes and he should have been disqualified. But for that instant, I was the World Heavyweight Champion. Now that I have tasted the glory, I will stop at nothing to be there again. My entire life is geared with this in mind. It's what every wrestler dreams of, but I plan to make it a reality. I will get a rematch sooner or later. After all, I won the match. When that time comes, every fiber of my being will be geared to defeat Harley Race and become the champion. I know I can do it. I've done it before. Yes, I am ready. Ready, anxious and eager.

Q: "I am ready", says Ted DiBiase, the Missouri State Champion, who may trade his belt for that of Harley Race after their next match. Ted, thanks for sitting with us today.

A: And that you!

A PICTORIAL LOOK AT THE CAREER OF LADIES CHAMPION THE FABULOUS MOOLAH

By Gene Gordon



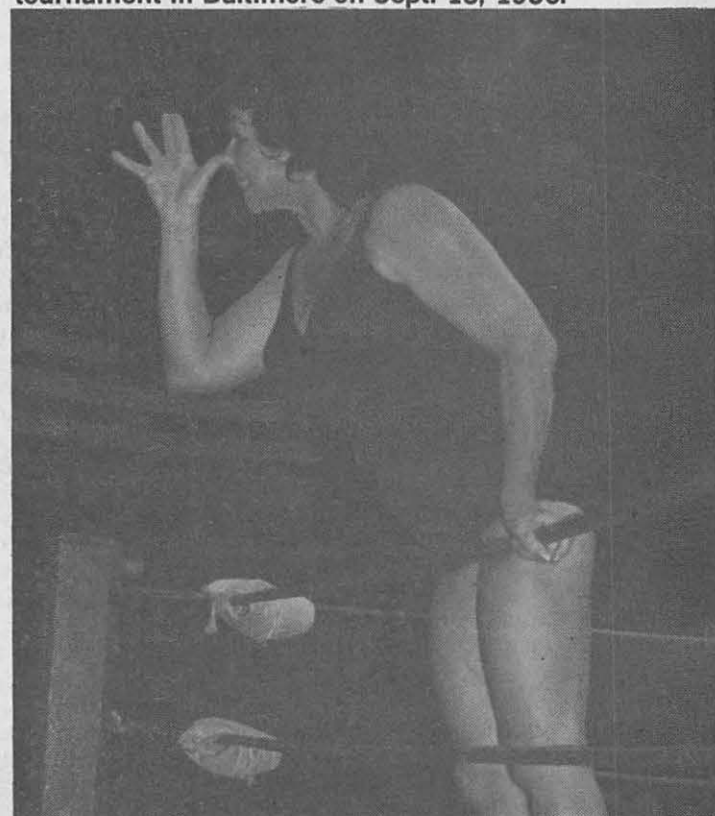
This is an early publicity shot of The Fabulous Moolah from the early fifties when she first started wrestling professionally.



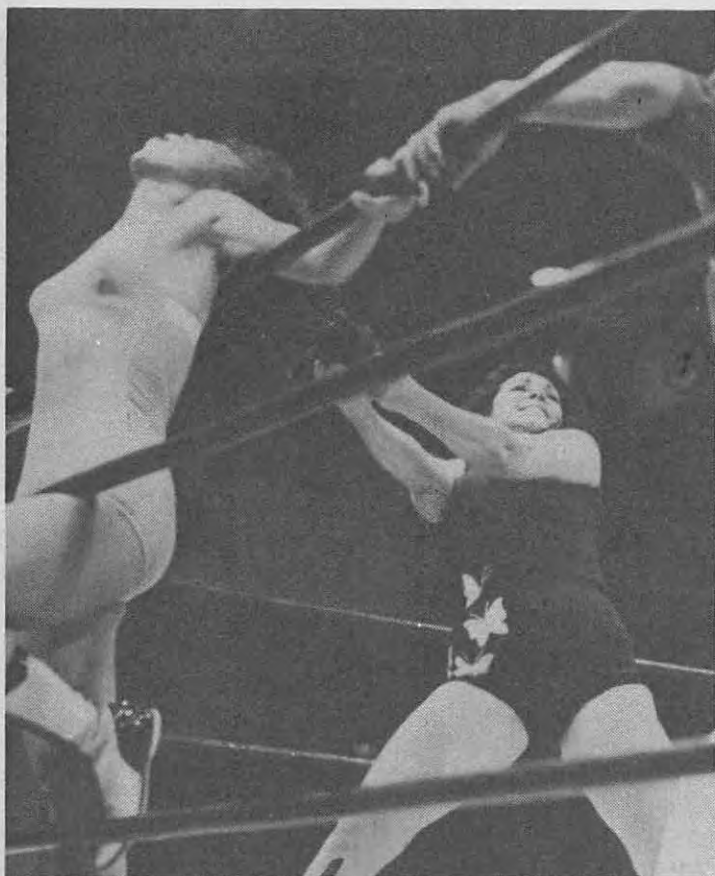
The Fabulous Moolah is presented the World's Title belt by the Maryland Athletic Commission after winning a tournament in Baltimore on Sept. 18, 1956.



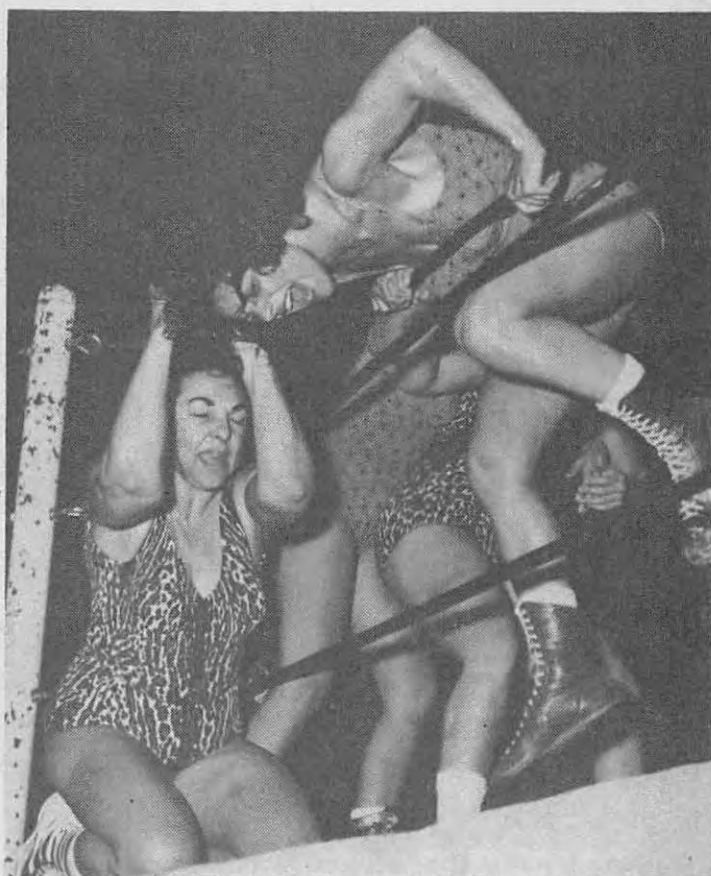
Moolah tries to mess up Joyce Grable's pretty face during one of their hectic battles.



The Fabulous one answers a heckler in the audience, she draws stronger reactions than any other lady wrestler.



Moolah works over Japanese Champion Sakura during a tour of the Orient a few years ago.



Moolah pulls Bette Boucher out of the ring by her hair during a wild Texas tag team contest.



The Fabulous Moolah is the most sought after lady wrestler in the game today, promoters everywhere know that her name on a marquee brings in the many avid girl grappling followers. The champ is a favorite of promoters, here she poses with Atlanta wrestling impresario Paul Jones.



Relaxing at home The Fabulous Moolah shows us some of the many trophies and awards that she has won during her long and illustrious career in the ring.



She is a great lover of animals, this picture of her and one of her pets was taken at her beautiful estate in Columbia, South Carolina.

PHOTO GALLERY OF SOME OF THE TOP STARS OF THE WORLD OF WOMEN'S PRO WRESTLING

By James C. Melby



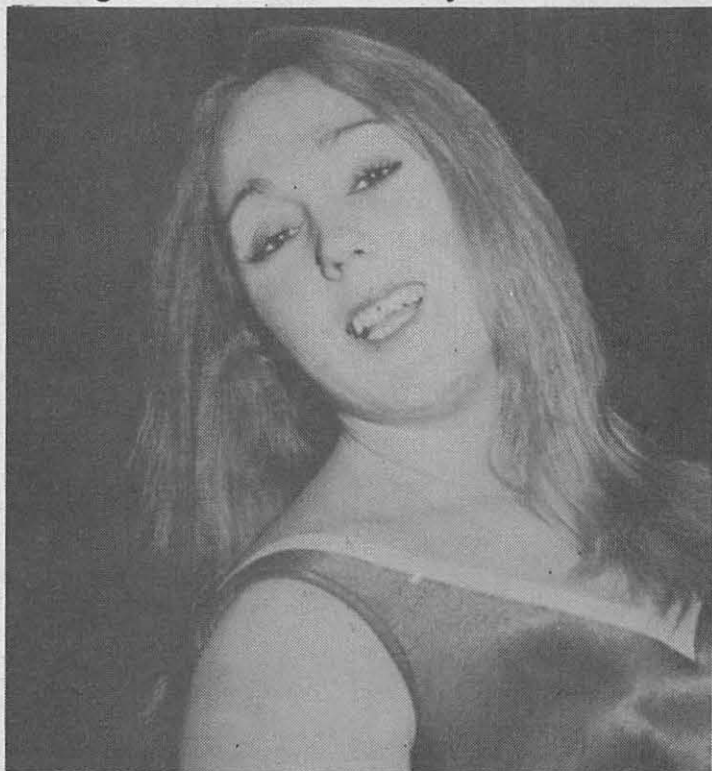
Judy Martin is currently the reigning United States Champion in the ladies' division.



Wenona Little Heart, the former U.S. Champ, is avidly seeking to win a rematch with Judy.



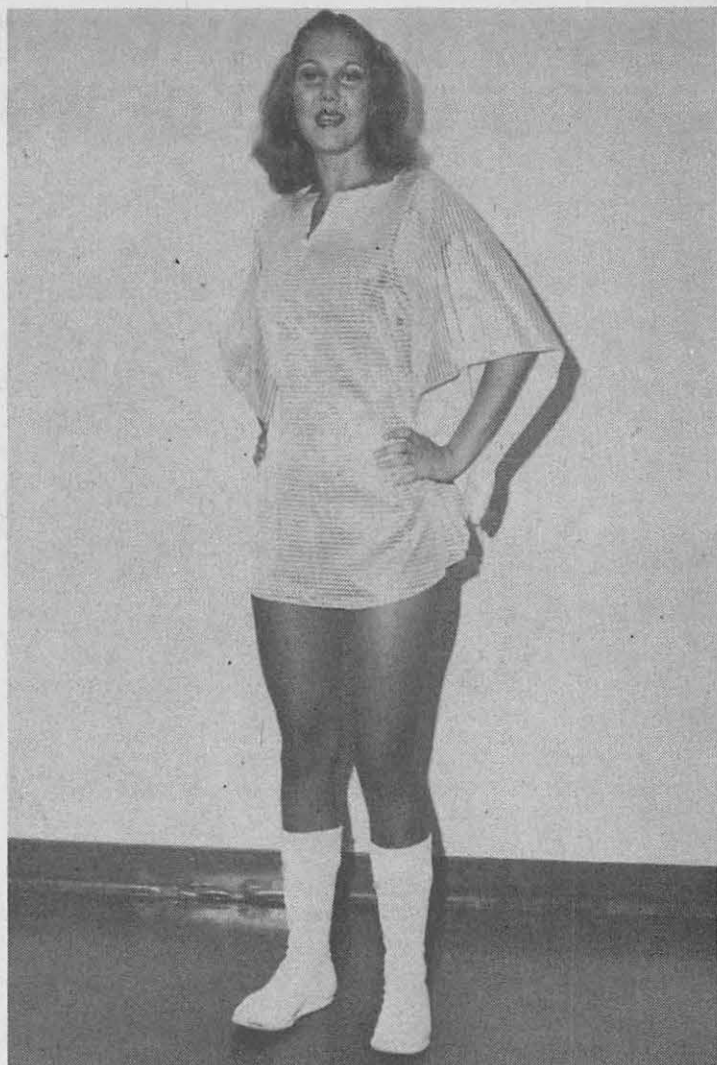
After a retirement of a few years, Donna Christanello has once more returned to the ring wars.



Hawaii's Le Lani Kai is known not only for her great ability, but also her many colorful ring outfits.



Debbie Combs has often teamed with her mother Cora in tag team contests.



Debbie's arch rival Donna Day has earned a number of her own supporters despite an extremely rough ring style.

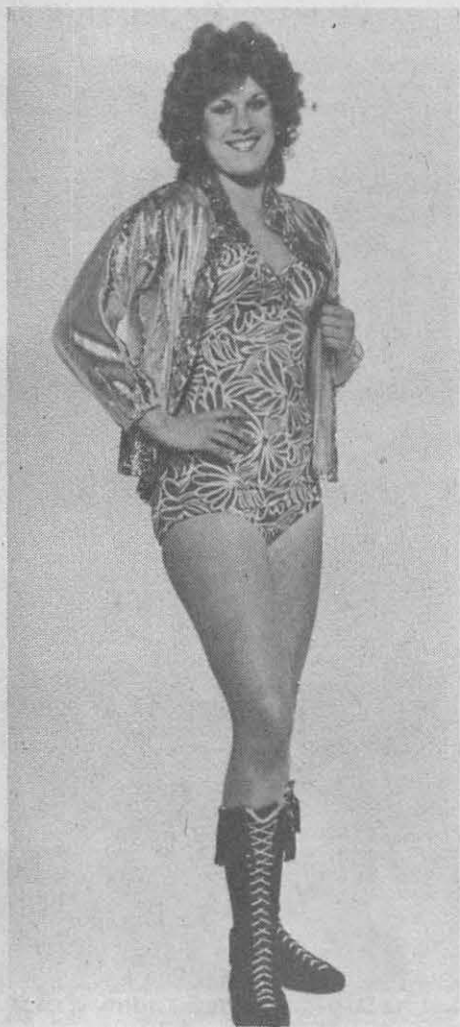


Kandi Maloy, no longer a rookie, has developed into one of the most popular lady stars, especially in the W.W.F.



Veteran Beverly Slade has been called upon by The Fabulous Moolah to act as her partner in a number of recent tag team contests.

SIX NEW LADY WRESTLERS - FUTURE STARS



CAROL SOMMERS



BETTY CLARK



JILL FONTAINE



CINDY MAJORS



TAMI LOVE



PEGGY LEE

PROFILES OF SOME TOP LADY WRESTLERS

By Jeff Howell

JOYCE GRABLE

To look at the very lovely Joyce Grable you would not think she is a professional lady wrestler. Don't let her beauty fool you because when in the ring she's capable of defeating any and all of her opponents. She's only been wrestling 8½ years professionally. She is now one of the top challengers for the women's championship which is held by The Fabulous Moolah.

Joyce is a very lovely champagne blonde who stands five feet five inches tall, weighs 138 pounds and has beautiful green eyes. She was born in LaGrange, Georgia 27 years ago and has a lovely figure of 36-24-37.

She first became interested in being a professional wrestler when she was 12 years old. In later years, she began her training under Judy Grable, who is one of the best women wrestlers in the history of wrestling. Joyce also had quite a bit of help from Vicki Williams.

Her first professional match was a tag team match with Tanya West as her partner. The match was held in Cleveland, Ohio. On that night they won their match

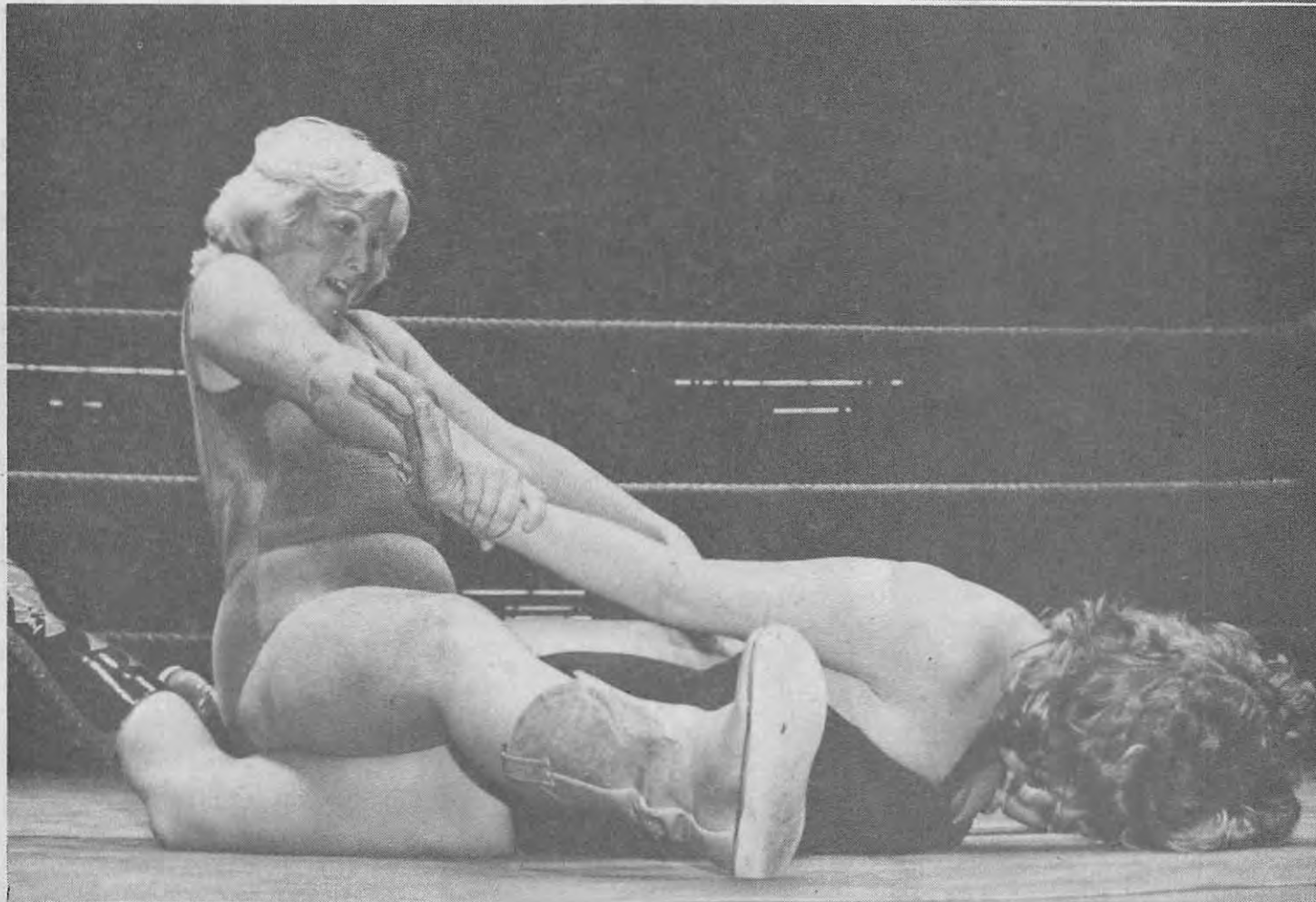
and ever since then Joyce has been winning most all of her matches.

Since teaming with Tanya West, she's also teamed with Debbie Johnson, Susan Green, Vicki Williams and Jan Sheridan. When Joyce was teaming with Jan Sheridan they wrestled as "The Champagne Blondes". Joyce and Jan had several battles with, at that time, the world tag team champions Donna Christianello and Toni Rose.

Joyce has been seen throughout many wrestling arenas in the world such as Washington, North and South Carolina and in New York, also throughout all of Canada. Anybody who gets a chance to see Joyce Grable wrestle should be very honored.

Some of her toughest opponents have been Donna Christianello, Paula Kaye and The Fabulous Moolah, who Joyce has had many battles with. Joyce also considers her toughest match being against The Fabulous Moolah.

When in the ring Joyce's favorite maneuver is "The Victory Roll," which she has perfected. She wins most of her matches by using her victory roll.



JEAN ANTONE

If you combine beauty, skill, grace and determination to win a match you have the very lovely professional lady wrestler, Miss Jean Antone. The reason that Jean has to use a little more skill and grace than any other women wrestler is because she's always out-thinking and out-smarting her opponents. She may be the shortest women wrestler in the world, but she's also the toughest in the world.

Miss Antone stands four feet, eleven inches tall, weighs 121 pounds and is thirty-six years old. She was born in the state of Mississippi. When Jean steps into the ring you can be sure you're going to see a great match. Every minute of the match she's putting everything she has into it, and believe me that's quite a bit.

She first became interested in being a professional wrestler when she was fourteen years old. She always went to the matches when she was a kid. She'd sit in her ringside seat every week thinking how someday she'd like to be part of what she saw. When Jean turned sixteen years old she talked to a few of the women wrestlers in her home town about training her. Most of them said no because of her size, but there was one woman who said she'd be glad to train Jean. Her name was Ela Waldeck, one of the greatest women wrestlers of her time. Ela and Jean began training six months before her seventeenth birthday. They worked very hard day in and day out for six months. Ela taught Jean everything she knew about wrestling. When Ela thought Jean was ready to make her debut into the world of professional wrestling, she had her booked to wrestle Ada Ames, a veteran of the mat world. Jean was seventeen when she wrestled her first professional match. She still remembers the day, it was on the seventh day in June of 1961. She says it's probably the roughest match she's ever had. Winning your first match is the greatest thing a professional wrestler can do. She not only won her first match but has almost won every one since then. She's defeated such women as: Kay Noble, Betty Niccoli, Maye Weston, Sandy Parker, Jessica Rogers and Sharon Brooks. She's been in the profession for nineteen years now.

Throughout her career as a professional wrestler she's traveled the whole world and wherever she goes people are always thrilled to see her in action. She's appeared in such places as: The Pacific Northwest, New Foundland, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and throughout all of the U.S. and Canada South America.

When it comes to having tag team partners, Jean's had very few. She mostly wrestles in single matches. Of course when you're as great a wrestler as Jean Antone you don't need a partner to help back you up. Her first tag team partner was Princess Little Cloud. Their first tag team match was in Omaha, Nebraska, against



the team of Betty Niccoli and Kay Noble. Jean and Little Cloud were one of the best women teams around while they were together. Her only other tag team partner has been Susan Tex Green.

Jean's been pretty lucky, the only ring injury she's had was when she dislocated her elbow. This happened on three different occasions. Doctors said she may never wrestle again because of her elbow, but with the determination she has, she's still wrestling and is still rated among the top ten women wrestlers in the world today.

In her career as a professional wrestler she's came up against some pretty tough opponents. Her toughest opponent is Betty Niccoli. No matter where these two meet they always manage to beat and kick each others brains out. Someday these two might seriously injure or even kill one another. She considers her other toughest opponents as being: Kay Noble, Sandy Parker and Vivian Vachon.

Not only her toughest battles have been against Betty Niccoli but some of her bloodiest matches have been against Betty. She remembers her bloodiest match very well, it was in Wichita, Kansas, a two out of three fall match. Jean took the first fall, Betty came back and pinned Jean to take the second fall. During the third fall, out of nowhere, Betty hit Jean in the head with a Japanese wooden sandal. The blood poured from Jean's head, when she had realized what Betty had done to her, she lost all control of herself and went wild. Jean stomped, kicked and even threw her out of the ring. When Betty tried to get back in the ring Jean wouldn't let her. Finally the referee held Jean back so Betty could get back into the ring, it was all over because Jean finally got her revenge. She defeated Betty Niccoli for the third fall,

making her the winner. Jean received six stitches after the match was over.

When in the ring Jean uses all sorts of fantastic holds and maneuvers. Her favorite holds are the figure four leg lock and the dreaded sleeper. She only uses these holds when she has to. Most of the time she tries to outsmart and out-manuever her opponents because of her size. She may be small in size but when in the ring she's a giant among the other women wrestlers.

She's been in every kind of match that a woman can participate in. Her favorite match is a mixed tag team match. One of them was in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She teamed up with Darlin Dagmar, who is her favorite partner when in mixed matches, they wrestled the team of Jessica Rogers and Diamond Lil. Another one was held in Junction City, Kansas. She teamed with The Haiti Kid and defeated the team of Sharon Brooks and Little Toyko. The one mixed match she'll never forget was when she teamed with Ricky Hunter and Lenny Hurst against the team of Sandy Parker, Bull Ramos and Fritz Von Schneider. Throughout the whole match Ramos chased Jean around the ring trying to catch her, because Jean slapped the big Indian in the face during the match.

Jean has held several titles throughout her career as a professional wrestler. Her most treasured titles were when she held The Kansas State, the Central States, and The California State Womens Belt. She still holds the California State Belt for Women. With all the titles she's held, she deserves to be The Womens World Champion. Maybe someday Jean will defeat the present Women's Champion for the title.

SANDY PARKER

Sandy Parker is not only the greatest black wrestler in the world, she's also one of the top ten women wrestlers in the world. She's traveled all over the world, defeated every major name in the profession, held titles all over the world and has a good chance to be the first black Women's World Champion. If Sandy ever won the world title for women it would be considered the upset of the two past decades. Why? Because every women wrestler in the world has tried to defeat the present Women's World Champion who, is The Fabulous Moolah. If Sandy could do this she'd be the greatest women wrestler in the world.

Sandy stands five feet, two inches tall, weighs 145 pounds of all woman and is thirty-four years old. She was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, but presently lives in Los Angeles, California. When Sandy steps in the ring you can be sure that you're going to see a great match. Sandy puts all she has into her matches and that's quite a bit. If you saw the speed and fantastic moves this young beauty uses, you'd be amazed.

She first became interested in being a professional wrestler when she was fifteen years old, it was when she saw her first wrestling match. She would go to the matches and talk to the wrestlers. A few of them even offered to train her, but she told them she'd like to wait until she was a few years older. So when she thought she was ready to begin her career as a wrestler she went and talked to one of the greatest wrestlers alive. She talked to Lou Klein. Lou has trained several other wrestlers who are some of the best in the profession. Lou and Sandy began their training. It took Lou four months to teach her everything he knew about wrestling. Lou has also trained such wrestlers as: Mickey Doyle, The Skull Brothers and his daughter, Linda Klein. When Sandy was ready for her first match, Lou signed her to wrestle in Battle Creek, Michigan. On that night she wrestled veteran of the mat, Mary Jane Mull. She lost her first match, but since then she's defeated such great stars as: Vicki Williams, Joyce Grable, Betty Niccoli, Jean Antone, Susan Green, and also The Fabulous Moolah in non-title matches. Sandy was twenty-two years old when she wrestled her first match. She's been in the profession for 12 years now.

Throughout her career as a professional wrestler people all over the world have had the thrill of seeing this beautiful super star in action. She's appeared in such places as: The Pacific Northwest, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, three times in Japan, twice in Australia and throughout all of the U.S. and Canada. To see Miss Parker in action is quite thrilling because every minute of the match she's using all



her skill, strength and fantastic moves to defeat her opponents.

Sandy has formed many successful tag teams. Her first tag team partner was Vicki Williams. Her first tag match was against the team of Betty and Rita Boucher in Washington D.C.. Sandy and Vicki were partners for seven months, defeating every team they came up against. Some of her other partners have been black star, Romana Isabell, her favorite and best tag team partner before they broke up was Susan Green.

Throughout her career as a professional wrestler she's come in contact with some pretty tough women. Her toughest opponent no matter where they meet is Vicki Williams, her ex-tag team partner. No matter where these two meet they always manage to beat and kick each other's brains out. She considers her other toughest opponents as being: Betty Niccoli, Bonnie Watson and The Fabulous Moolah.

Every wrestler at one time or another receives ring injuries. Sandy's been very lucky, she's only had three injuries. Once she dislocated her shoulder, tore the cartilage in her knee and also chipped her elbow, which can be very painful.

When in the ring she uses all types of holds and maneuvers. Her favorite is, The Elbow Drop. She'll jump off the top rope and smash her opponents on the head or neck. She's also been known to pull a few sneaky tricks and dirty tactics. But whether a dirty wrestler or not she's the greatest.

Sandy's been in all kinds of matches, her favorite is a mixed tag team. She says "I've been in so many mixed matches that I can't remember all of them, although there's one I do remember. It was when Darlin Dagmar and I wrestled the team of Lily Thomas and Diamond Lil. It was the best mixed match I've ever been in, you'd have to have seen it to believe it".

Sandy Parker has held titles from almost every area she's wrestled in. Her most treasured title was when she shared The Women's World Tag Team Belts with her partner Susan Green. They won the belts from the team of Donna Christenello and Toni Rose. The other belt she treasures is The Pacific Coast Belt, which she held in June of 1975. She's a true champion of champions. So remember the name Sandy Parker, because you're going to hear a lot of it.

PAULLA KAYE

When you hear the name Paulla Kaye you think of a mean and vicious blonde haired woman wrestler who gets in the ring and kicks and stomps her opponents to death. Paulla does stomp and kick her opponents, but if you were Paulla Kaye and had to wrestle some of the women she steps in the ring with you'd also do anything to win your match, and that's exactly what Miss Paulla Kaye does. Paulla is probably the roughest woman wrestler in the world. Every time Paulla steps in the ring you can see fear in the eyes of her opponents. I think Miss Paulla Kaye is a very lovely woman, inside or outside of the ring. Mean or not mean she's the greatest.

Paulla Kaye is a very lovely blonde haired, blue eyed beauty. She stands five feet, five inches tall, weighs 140 pounds and is thirty-one years old. Miss Kaye was born in Duncan, Oklahoma.

Paulla first became interested in being a professional wrestler when she was eighteen years old. A few months after she had turned nineteen she went and talked to her cousin Sam Bass, who is also a great wrestler. Sam worked with Paulla for several months teaching her everything he knew about professional wrestling. When Paulla was ready for her debut, Sam talked to a promoter in Georgia, and told him that he had a new wrestling sensation, and that he'd like to have her wrestle there in Georgia. The promoter agreed and Paulla made her debut in Macon, Georgia.

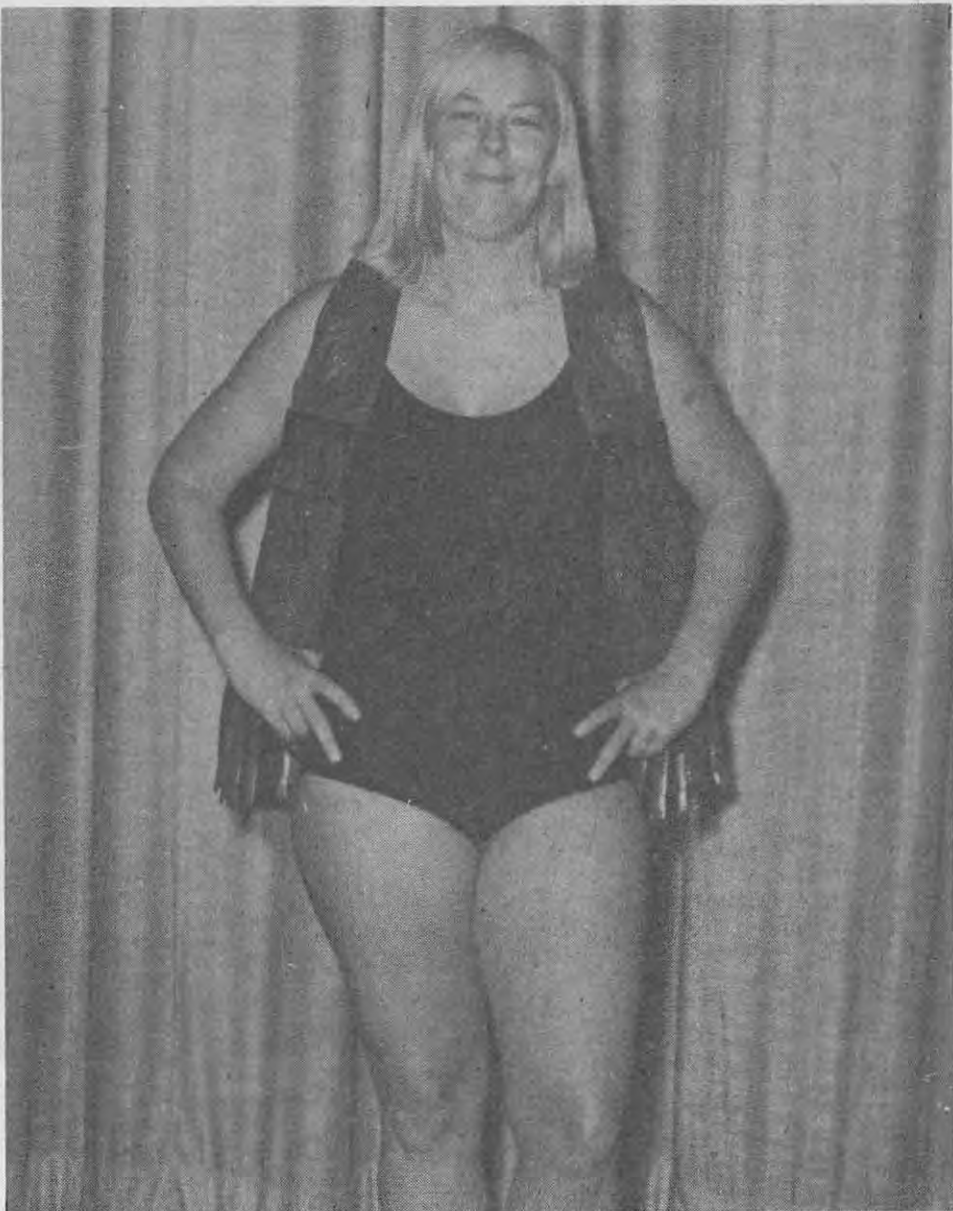
On that night she wrestled with The Fabulous Moolah as her partner against the team of Vicki Williams and Joyce Grable. She's been in the profession for 13 years now.

Throughout Paulla's career as a professional wrestler people all over the world have had the thrill of seeing this super star in action. She's been seen in such places as: The Pacific Northwest, Australia, Puerto Rico, The Bahamas, Japan and throughout all of the U.S. and Canada. The first time I saw Paulla Kaye wrestle was in the state of Washington.

Paulla has formed teams with several different women. Her first tag team partner was The Fabulous Moolah. Some of her other partners have been: Peggy Patterson, Donna Christenello, Sandy Parker and The Masked-White Venus.

She's come up against several tough women wrestlers so far. She rates her three toughest opponents as being: Joyce Grable, Vicki Williams and Susan (Tex) Green. Paulla's had several battles against all of these girls but the one she dislikes the most is Susan Green. No matter where they see each other the always try to "Kill" one another. They'll travel for hundreds of miles just to get at each others throats.

Some of her bloodiest matches have



been against Lily Thomas and Jan Sheridan. The bloodiest of all took place in Canada, it was against black star Lily Thomas. Paulla received six stitches when the match was over and was also declared the winner of the match.

When in the ring she'll use all sorts of amazing holds and maneuvers. The flying drop kick, the bulldogger, elbow smashes, but most of all she used plain old dirty tactics and sneaky tricks.

Paulla's had very few ring injuries. Her most serious injuries were when she fractured her nose, split her head open just above her left eye, and when she tore all the ligaments, pulled all the muscles and broke all the blood vessels in her ankle. Doctors said she'd never wrestle again but with the determination she has, it didn't stop her because she's still wrestling. It'll take more than an ankle injury to put Paulla Kaye out of action. Wrestling is her whole life.

When it comes to holding titles, Paulla Kaye has done quite well. Her most important title was when she and Dottie Downs held the Mid Atlantic Tag Team

Championship. Her main goal is to win The Women's World Title which is held by "The Fabulous Moolah".

Paulla's been in every kind of match that you can think of that a woman can participate in. Her favorite kind of match is a mixed tag team. Once she was in a match with Diamond Lil against the team of Susan Green and Darlin Dagmar. Buck Robley and Paulla also wrestled against Johnny Eagles and Susan Green. I've also seen her in a mixed match with Ripper Collins and Diamond Lil against the team of Susan Green, Darlin Dagmar and Eric Frolich in Ridgefield, Washington in July of 1974.

Paulla's beaten all the top names in Women Wrestling. She's defeated- Vicki Williams, Susan Green, Joyce Grable, Maria La Verne and also The Fabulous Moolah in non-title matches. Maybe someday Paulla will win the Women's World Title. Lets hope so. Good Luck Paulla.

SUSAN GREEN

The state of Texas is said to have the best wrestling in the world. It's known as the blood capital of wrestling. Texas has such great stars as: The Cowboy's Dream — Dusty Rhodes, Dory and Terry Funk, Ricky Romero, Dick Murdock. The greatest wrestling sensation to ever come out of the state of Texas is Susan (Tex) Green. Native Texans are very proud of Susan Green.

This lovely blonde haired, hazel eyed beauty stands six feet, one inch tall, weighs 169 pounds and is twenty eight years old. Sue was born in Alice, Texas. When Sue steps in the ring you can see the joy and delight in the eyes of the fans, because they know she's going to do her best to defeat her opponent.

Sue first became interested in being a professional wrestler when she was fifteen years old. After graduating from high school at the age of sixteen she went to Corpus Christi, Texas, to talk to promoter-wrestler Floyd Emerson. Floyd was amazed at what he saw standing before him. He saw a tall beautiful young woman who was very sports minded and who he thought would make a great professional woman wrestler. To see the beautiful Susan Green, you'd also agree that she has the speed, ability, strength and determination of a great wrestler. So Floyd said he'd train young Susan Green. The two worked very hard for three months training day and night. When Sue was ready for her debut, Floyd booked her for her first match in Victoria, Texas. On that night she wrestled Marie Deleon. Sue lost her first match, but when you're up against a veteran of the mat for the first time, it's rough. She's been in the profession for 12 years now.

Throughout Susan's career as a professional wrestler people all over the world have had the thrill of seeing this great champion in action. She's appeared in such places as: The Pacific Northwest, The East Coast, The Midwest, The Southwest, China, Australia and throughout all of Japan and Canada. Believe me, to see Miss Green in action is quite a thrill. Every minute of her match she puts every ounce of energy and skill she has into it.

Sue has formed several teams with different wrestlers. Her first tag team partner was a man, which is unusual for the first time in a tag match. Her partner was Mark Starr, together Sue and Mark defeated the team of Mike York and Marie Deleon. Her first woman tag team partner was Sandy Parker. They wrestled the team of Toni Rose and Donna Christenello, which they also defeated. Some of her other partners have been: Joyce Grable, Vicki Williams and Kitty Adams.



Throughout her career as a professional wrestler she's come in contact with some pretty tough women. Her toughest opponent no matter where they meet, is Paulla Kaye. These two are always at each others throats. Someday these two might seriously injure or even kill one another. I've seen these two blondes wrestle each other in Portland, Oregon and believe me, they kicked, stomped, threw each other out of the ring and even fought on the way to their dressing rooms. Sue rates her other toughest opponents as being The Fabulous Moolah, Toni Rose and Donna Christenello.

Sue has had very few bloody matches, but the ones she's had was in Japan against the Japanese Woman Champion. Sue received six stitches after the match was over. Sue says "The Japanese women wrestlers are a lot rougher than us American women wrestlers, although they can be beaten just like anyone else." Sue may have been the bloodiest of the two, but she was also declared the winner of the match.

Every wrestler at one time or another, whether it's a man or woman has been injured in the ring. Sue has been pretty lucky she's only had three really serious injuries. Once when she separated her shoulder in a match, cracked her knee and broke two ribs and cracked three. Her

favorite holds are, the figure four leg lock and the bulldog.

Susan Green has been in all types of matches. One of her favorite types is a mixed tag team match. When ever she has a mixed match with a midget, her partner is usually Darlin Dagmar. She's teamed with Dagmar against the team of Peggy Patterson and Diamond Lil. She also teamed with Dagmar and Eric Frolich against the team of Paulla Kaye, Ripper (Roy) Collins and Diamond Lil. She once wrestled with Sonny Boy Hayes against Donna Christenello and Billy The Kid, wrestling's outlaw.

When it comes to holding titles, she's held them all. Her most prized title was when she held The Texas Belt. She defeated Betty Niccoli for the belt and was undefeated for two years. Sue left for Japan, and the belt was put up for grabs. Her other most treasured title was when Sandy Parker and her won The Women's World Tag Team Championship from the team of Toni Rose and Donna Christenello. As everybody knows, Susan Green is the greatest and certainly in my opinion, the most beautiful woman wrestler in the world. Let's all wish Sue Green luck in winning the Women's World Championship because that's the only goal out of life she wants to fill. Good luck Sue, from all of your fans.

VICKIE WILLIAMS



If you combine beauty, skill, grace and determination to win a match you have the very lovely professional lady wrestler Vicki Williams.

She is a very beautiful green-eyed blonde, who has been wrestling for 10½ years. Vicki was born in Savannah, Georgia twenty-nine years ago, stands five feet four inches tall, weighs 130 pounds, and is gifted with the speed and ability to win her matches.

Vicki first became interested in wrestling when she was 18 years old. She was always crazy about sports when she was young. So at the age of nineteen Vicki began her training under the supervision of another professional lady wrestler. As months went by, Vicki became an outstanding wrestler. When it was time for her debut, she wrestled Fran Gravette in Augusta, Georgia.

Throughout Vicki's career, people all over the world have had the pleasure of seeing her in action. She's wrestled in Washington, California, the Carolinas, Madison Square Garden in New York, and has also traveled throughout all of Japan and Australia.

Vicki has formed tag teams with several different women wrestlers. Some of her favorites are Sandy Parker, Sharon Joy and Joyce Grable. Vicki and Joyce wrestled as a team for a number of years. Today they are one of the greatest teams in the world.

Vicki rates her three toughest opponents as Tami Jones, Maye Weston and the Fabulous Moolah. Her toughest match was against the Fabulous Moolah which was held in Baltimore, Maryland. Vicki has had several great battles against Moolah.

Vicki has been engaged in several mixed matches, such as with Bob Pringel against Toni Rose and Jack Pescki, with Ricky Starr against Maye Weston and one of the Weston boys in Oklahoma, with Joyce Grable and Tony Borne against Toni Rose, Dottie Downs and Ripper Collins in Chehalis, Washington. She's also appeared in mixed midget matches with Cowboy

Lang against Paulla Kaye and Little Bruiser. She's been in almost every kind of match that a woman can participate in.

When in the ring Vicki uses several high-flying moves. Her favorite maneuver is "the rolling body scissors." No other woman wrestler can match the rolling body scissors that she uses.

TONI ROSE



If you combine beauty, skill, grace and a determination to win at any cost, you have the attributes of professional lady wrestler Toni Rose. She is a lovely brown-eyed brunette and a sixteen-year veteran of the mat world. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana thirty-three years ago. She is five feet five inches tall and weighs 132 pounds.

She first became interested in wrestling when she was sixteen, and was later trained by the women's world champion The Fabulous Moolah. In her debut she wrestled Bambi Ball in Macon, Georgia. From there she has wrestled in Washington, D.C., North Carolina, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong and Australia and several other arenas throughout the world.

In her illustrious career Toni has teamed up with The Fabulous Moolah, Dottie Downs and Donna Christianello, with whom she at one time held the world tag team championship. Toni and Donna won the title in an elimination match in Los Angeles, California.

Some of Toni's toughest opponents have been Donna Christianello, before they became tag team partners, Bambi Ball, Sandy Parker and The Fabulous Moolah. Toni wrestled The Fabulous Moolah for the World Championship on two occasions, in Washington, D.C. and in Mobile, Alabama. Toni has also held the U.S. Women's Belt as well as the Japanese Belt.

Toni has participated in numerous mixed matches in her career. She has teamed up with Louis Tillet against Judy Grable and Vittorio Apollo in Houston, Texas, and with Frank Monti against Johnny Weaver and his wife Penny Banner in Greenville, South Carolina. She has teamed with midgets Diamond Lil against Sandy Parker and Darling Dagmar and with Billy the Kid against Debbie Johnson and Farmer Pete.

DOTTIE DOWNS



Dottie Downs is a very lovely blonde who has been in the profession of women's wrestling for almost eight years. She stands five feet five inches tall, weighs 140 pounds and has very beautiful brown eyes. Dottie was born in Louisville, Kentucky and is 39 years old.

Dottie first became interested in wrestling when she was 28 years old. At the age of 31, she began her training in New Orleans under the supervision of another professional wrestler. She also had quite a bit of help from the Y.W.C.A. of New Orleans.

Dottie's first professional match was in Mobile, Alabama. On that night she was engaged in an all-girl battle royal.

Her first tag team partner was Paulla Kaye. On that night they wrestled the team of Jan Sheridan and Peggy Patterson. She's also teamed with Donna Christianello, Toni Rose and the Fabulous Moolah. Dottie claims that, "The Fabulous Moolah is the best tag team partner I've ever teamed up with and certainly my favorite tag team partner."

Throughout her years as a professional wrestler, she's been in arenas all over the world. She's wrestled in such places as Washington, New Jersey, once in Japan, Madison Square Garden in New York, parts of Canada and throughout the east coast.

Dottie rates her three toughest opponents as Peggy Patterson, Lily Thomas and Penny Banner. Her toughest match was against Lily Thomas in New York. Dottie lost that match, but has been winning most all of them ever since.

When in the ring, Dottie uses all the skill and knowledge she has of wrestling. Her favorite maneuver is the "step-over toe hold" which she has perfected. She's beaten all of the top women wrestlers at one time or another.

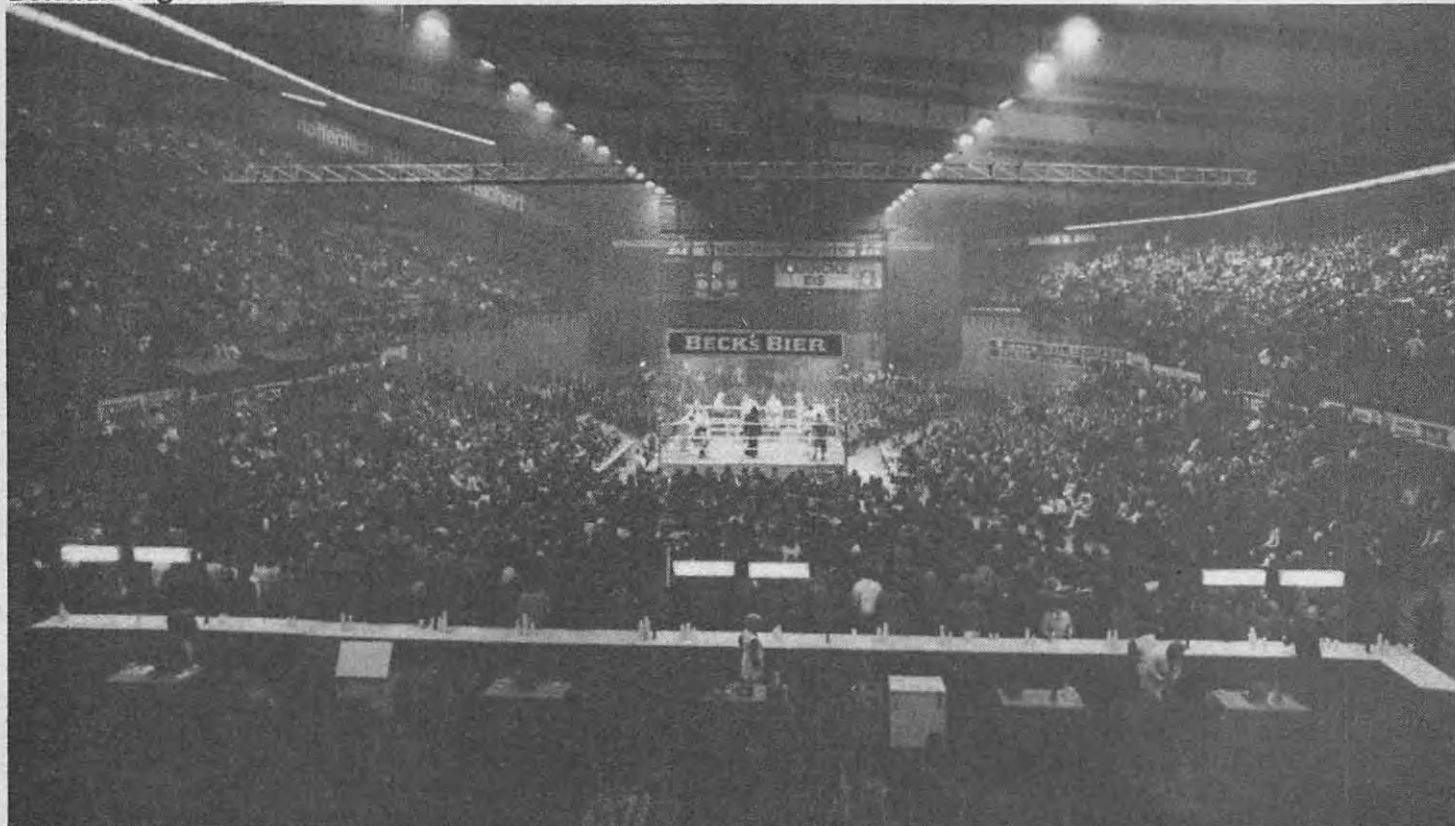
When Dottie isn't wrestling you'll probably find her listening to some of her records. Her favorite hobby is collecting records.

TOURNAMENT IN BREMEN, GERMANY, WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

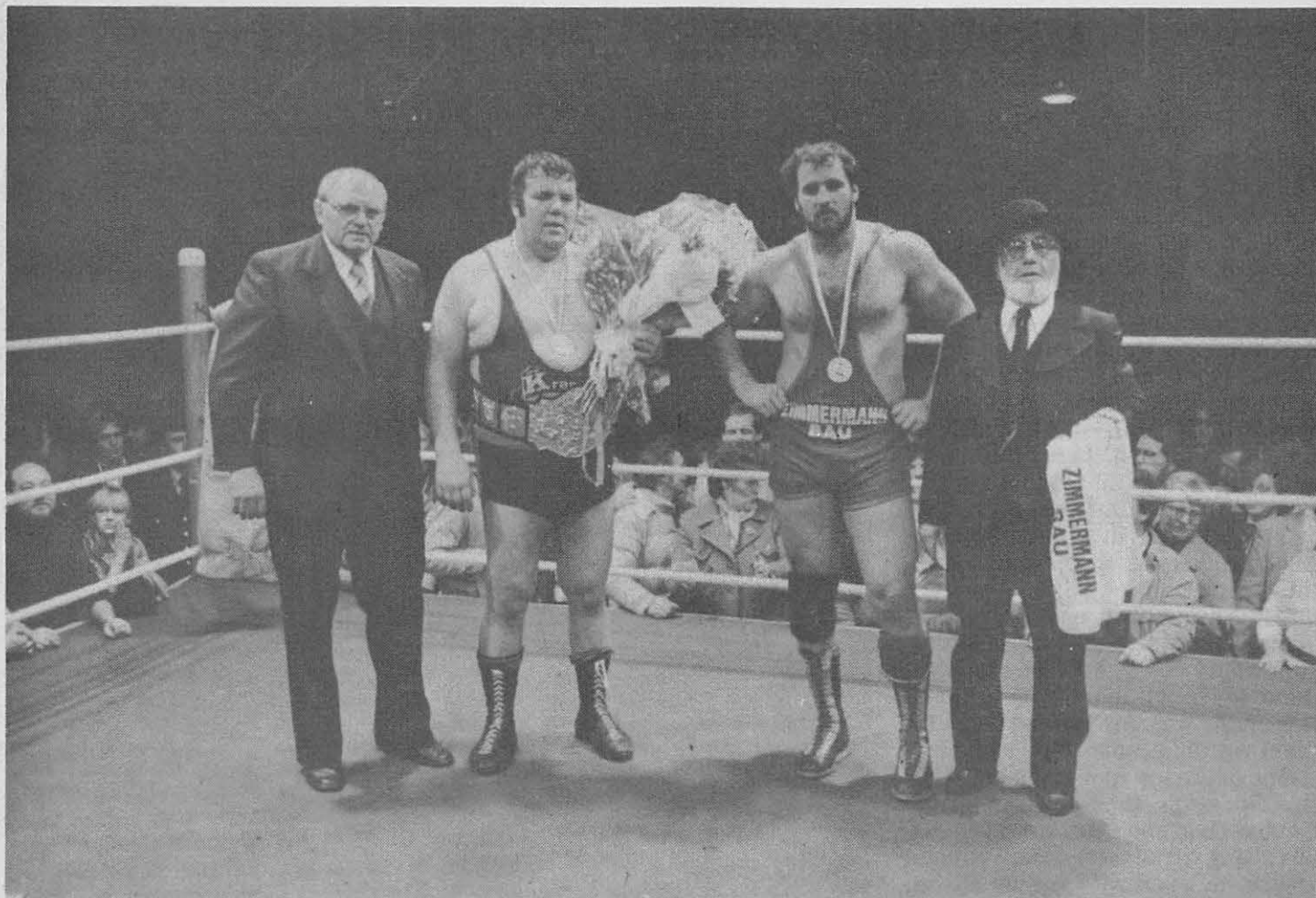
By Gerhard Schafer



This is a group photo of the people involved in the recent tournament held in Bremen, Germany. Pictured left to right in the 1st row are Mick McMichael, Tony St. Clair, Bobby Gaetano, Super Destroyer, M.C. Jens Rasmus, Fred Major, Rasputin II, Bob "UFO" Dellasarra, Barry Douglas, El Mongol, Steve Wright, and Didier Gapp. And in the second row from left to right are Indio Guajaro, Wolfgang Satuski, Johnny El Corso, Moose Morowski, Bremen Hall Director Hans Claussen, Otto Wanz, Promoter Nico Selenkowitsch, Steve Pearsay, Eddie Steinblock, Ivan Strogoff, and Biko Botowamungo.



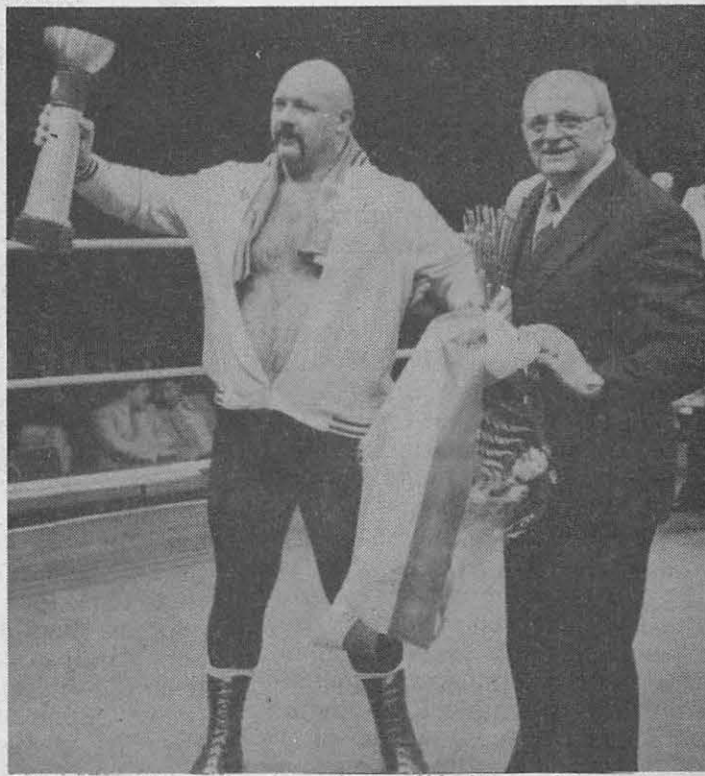
This shot shows a sellout crowd of 8,000 avid German wrestling fans watching the action during the big tournament in Bremen, the evening's participants are being introduced prior to the start of the matches.



Heavyweight Champion Otto Wanz and challenger Steve Pearsay pose with promoter Nico Selenkowitsch and Fred Major before their ring showdown. Wanz, who hails from Austria, had Pearsay in such trouble with a leglock that Major, his manager, was forced to throw in a white towel of concession.



Two of the most successful of the heavyweights in the tournament, Ivan Strogoff and Moose Morowski, pose with dignitaries before wrestling.



European Champion Ivan Strogoff holds up his trophy in victory after defeating Morowski.

BRITISH WRESTLING REPORT

By Stuart H. Barker

With the wrestling season now in full swing we have our leading men going to Germany for the big tournaments, and in exchange many of Europe's top mat stars coming to our shores.

Otto Wanz of Austria will be in the U.S. and Canada in the near future. He is hoping to wrestle for promoter Vince McMahon in New York's Madison Square Garden. Later he plans to start promoting and will hold a big tournament in Craz. In addition he plans to promote cards in other cities in Austria such as Klagenturth and Innsbruck.

Mr. Shimma, president of the W.W.F., recently was in Berlin to sign many top stars of Europe to make tours of Japan. Negotiations are under way for Roland Bock to meet Antonio Inoki in Japan.

One of the top new stars in Great Britain rings is Black sensation Bobby Geatano. He currently is wrestling out of Grenoble, France, where he lives with his beautiful wife, a former ski instructor.

One of the most popular things for people to do after watching the big tournaments in Germany is to go out with the wrestlers after the matches to a local beer garden. The grapplers themselves enjoy meetings the fans socially, and a good time is had by all participating.

Speaking of beer gardens, former wrestler John Lees now owns one in his home town of Stalybridge.

"Gold Belt" Brian Maxine recently took his country and western band to compete in the 4th International Country Music Weekend in Yarmouth, Norfolk. I wonder if Brian found time to enter the bucking bronco competition while there?

One of the biggest attractions at the present here is the returning masked Exorcist. This mystery man is the only wrestler in our rings with a female manager. His manager is Jannie Brannington, who likes to psyche out her man's opponents by telling them how many victories The Exorcist



THE MASKED EXORCIST WITH MANAGER JANNIE BRANNINGTON

holds, and just what he will do in upcoming action. It is rumored that if she can't cast a spell over their foes, that she will resort to popping them over the head with her walking stick. This type of trance definitely takes an effect! It is rumored also that The Exorcist wears a mask to hide scars he received while crashing during a sports car race. His injuries were so severe that he has to have one of the eye holes in his

mask shaded. The crash also left one leg shorter than the other. This results in The Exorcist wearing one boot that is heavy soled to adjust for the difference. Many recent opponents of the masked man have claimed that it is a ploy to allow The Exorcist to use a foreign object in his built up boot. He has gotten into a lot of trouble with local wrestling authorities over this matter. Jannie on the other hand has been quoted as

saying, "His boots were made for his walking, and each one laced for victory!" Not everything has been going his way as of late. During one recent hectic ring encounter a foe knocked out one of the hooded grappler's teeth. The Exorcist gave that foe a tremendous beating in return, and Jannie put in her help by banging him over the head were her trusty stick.

Another top star here is Sammy Lee. A former film star, he is well versed in the martial arts. Originally he trained under the great Karl Gotch before taking to the mat. Hailing from Odessa originally, he has brought a unique foot style of wrestling to England. In fact Sammy is so effective with his feet, that many feel he could win matches without ever making use of his arms! Recently Lee has formed a powerful tag team combination with Big Daddy. Their match against the duo of Lee Sharron and Tony Walsh was one of the most spectacular held in Albert Hall in many years. Big Daddy's headbutts tore the opposition apart, and the only way they could find Sammy was to look up in the air.

Sammy of course strikes a startling appearance by entering the ring his kendo stick and white gloves. He has been known to use his stick to trip and humiliate foes who try to attack him before the bell. He of course only brings the stick into action after being fouled. But crowds usually roar their approval when he does, because the opponents who get this Kung Fu treatment for the most part have had it coming for a long time.

If any of you are planning to visit our shores and take in some wrestling matches I might suggest that you try any card promoted under the banner of Joint Promotions. Matchmaker Max Crabtree provides only the best name attractions such as Sammy Lee on their cards.

Interest continues to center around Wayne Bridges. He has continued to defeat a host of foreign competition in the open tournament being held here to decide a new Heavyweight Champion. He is not only well supported by the fans, but also has the nod from his fellow wrestlers who appreciate his smooth scientific approach to the sport.



SAMMY LEE

Jon Cortez scored a major victory when he defeated Jim Breaks in London's Royal Albert Hall to capture the European Lightweight Championship. The new champion certainly will have his work cut out for him, as there are numerous worthy contenders waiting in the wings for a title shot.

The legendary Kendo Nagasaki recently made an appearance at Liverpool Stadium to give King Kendo a court summons. It seems that he doesn't take lightly to other people trying to use his name and reputation. He issued a challenge to all of these pretenders to meet him man to man in the squared circle.

And in a real surprise move it looks like Kendo Nagasaki will soon be forming a tag team with none other than Count Bartelli. That will be quite some combination for any tag team to overcome!

I have made arrangements for readers of this publication to obtain copies of **WRESTLING SCENE**, the official magazine of Joint Promotions. To obtain a copy send two U.S. dollars, sorry no checks, to Mr. Russell Plumer, 39 Ellwood Avenue, Peterborough, England PE2 8LX.

And if you are interested in the wrestling scene in Germany, mail two international reply coupons to Andreas Matle, Homburger Strabe 17, 6000 Frankfurt/Main 90 for information on his excellent **CATCH JOURNAL**.



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ON AND AROUND THE MAT WORLD

AREA CLOSE-UPS REPORTS COMPILED BY NORMAN H. KIETZER

Welcome to the "Area Close-Ups" for issue No. 74 of The Wrestling News Magazine. I must start off by thanking each and every one of you who sent me clippings, programs and reports on the wrestling in your area. Without all of your help it would be impossible to keep up to date on major league professional wrestling around the globe. Remember to send all such material directly to Wrestling Magazine Headquarters, 201 McConnell Street, P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56001, U.S.A.

THE AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

We will start off by looking at wrestling right here in our own back yard. The A.W.A. promotions in Minnesota had their greatest year ever in 1980, and the year 1981 looks to be even greater. A recent event in St. Paul, Minnesota drew a sell-out crowd of over 18,000 fans into the Civic Center and a gross of around \$150,000. A.W.A. wrestling is also going great guns in such major cities as Oakland, California; Omaha, Nebraska; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Winnipeg, Manitoba and Chicago, Illinois — as well as in hundreds of smaller cities throughout those states.

There is no one individual or group of individuals on which all the attention focuses in the A.W.A. Of course, the all time great Verne Gagne continues to hold the World's Heavyweight Championship. However, he has had some very serious challenges recently from Nick Bockwinkel (former champion) and from Jerry Blackwell. Verne Gagne has announced plans to retire several times, and he may very well have done just that by the time you read this in print. If he retires holding the championship, that would indeed be a unique happening, for no major wrestling alliance has ever had the holder of their World's Heavyweight Championship voluntarily retire while still holding the belt.

The tag team scene is no less hectic. One would have thought that when Jim Brunzell returned to the area early this year and re-formed the tag team known as "The High Flyers" with Greg Gagne that the two would go back on top as A.W.A. World's Tag Team Champions immediately. After all, they had held the title before and never lost it, being forced to give it up when Jim was injured in a softball game. Brunzell had spent the past year or so in the southeast where he did very well in singles competition. Greg and Jim back together looked like a sure bet to become champions, but such has not been the case — at least not yet. Jesse "The

Body" Ventura and "Golden Boy" Adrian Adonis have defended their tag team title several times against the "Flyers" and though Greg and Jim have come very close to winning, "The East-West Connection" as New Yorker Adonis and Californian Ventura like to be called, have always left the ring with their belts.

And there are a few other tag teams on the scene. "Big" John Studd and Jerry Blackwell have done very well recently. The Crusher has been teaming with Baron von Raschke, and Nick Bockwinkel has had some success in doubles competition with his manager Bobby "The Brain" Heenan as his partner.

Other grapplers on the A.W.A. scene during the past two months include Tito Santana, Billy Howard, Brad Rheingans, Buck Zum Hofe, Steve Regal, Juan Valez and Ray Stevens.

All these stars and more have been appearing on the A.W.A. cards in Chicago recently. The windy city has seen a big increase in wrestling attendance in recent months after a slow season. Besides the superstars of the A.W.A., many of the top stars from the Indianapolis (Indiana) booking office have appeared on the A.W.A. cards in Chicago in recent months. Among them were Paul Christy, Bobby Bold Eagle, Wilbur Snyder, Jerry Graham Jr., Bobo Brazil, Spike Huber, Johnny Valiant and Dick the Bruiser. The Indianapolis office holds membership in the W.W.A. which recognizes The Bruiser as heavyweight champion and the combo of Wilbur Snyder & Spike Huber as tag team champions. Besides those W.W.A. stars already listed, also active in Indiana rings recently have been Johnny Starr, El Bracero, Don Kent, Jackie Ruffin, Tim Hampton, Greg Lake and Ox Baker.



JESSE VENTURA

THE CONTINENTAL WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

The two promotions here were previously listed in my column as part of the American Wrestling Association. They continue to hold membership in the A.W.A., but also hold membership in the C.W.A. and the N.W.A. As is often the case in this column, I have arbitrarily decided how to group promotions together. In actual fact, all of the booking offices in the United States are independent operations. They may or may not be members of the different major associations, they may belong to one or more, and they often feature champions from more than one association. The promotions I have grouped under the C.W.A. manner in this issue are those promotions where Billy Robinson, who is recognized as heavyweight champion by the C.W.A., has defended his title during the past two months.

First we will take a look at the Memphis (Tennessee) booking office. Robinson's most persistent challenger here has been Welshman Tony Charles, who has come very close to winning C.W.A. honors. However, the biggest star active in the area right now has to be "King" Jerry Lawler who recently regained the A.W.A. Southern Heavyweight Championship from Jimmy Valiant, and also drove Jimmy out of the area in a "loser leave town" match. Since Lawler's return to action, the attendance in all cities in Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio where the Memphis office holds promotions has picked up and sell-outs everywhere have become almost the rule.

Handsome Jimmy Valiant was the top man in the stable of manager Jimmy Hart. When Lawler sent Valiant packing, it was just the start of a series of setbacks for Mr. Hart. Bill Dundee and Tommy Rich defeated Hart's team of Austin Idol and Dutch Mantell to win the C.W.A. tag team title. The Dream Machine resigned from Hart's organization. The only luck Hart has had is with the team of Wayne Farris and Tojo Yamamoto, who continue to hold the A.W.A. Southern Tag Team Championship.

Other grapplers who have wrestled in this area during the past two months include Big Red, Ron Sexton, Roy Rogers, Dory Funk Jr., Mr. Onita, Massee Fuji, Koko Ware, The Bounty Hunters with Jimmy Kent, Sonny King, Eddie Gilbert, David Oswald, Gypsy Joe, Tom Maley, The Angel, Chief Thundercloud, Vennie Romero, The Turk, El Toro, Terry Funk, Jack Brisco, Stan Frazier, Ali Hassan and Tommy Gilbert.

The other area we will cover in the C.W.A. section is Texas. This is the Southwest Championship Wrestling

promotion of promoter Dorthy Livengood Brown, with headquarters in San Antonio and the Houston Wrestling promotion of promoter Paul Boesch. (Note: Other Texas wrestling will be covered in the N.W.A. section.) Because the Houston and San Antonio office now work as a partnership, we will cover what is happening there in one report.

To start off we will look at the titles. Tully Blanchard was injured in an automobile accident and unable to defend the Southwest Heavyweight Championship within the 30 day limit so a one night tournament was held to name a new champion. The field of contestants included Wahoo McDaniel, Mr. Fuji, Tank Patton, Ivan Putski, Eddie Mansfield, Black Gordman, Scott Casey, Gino Hernandez, Chavo Guerrero, Gary Lindgren, Tom Jones, Larry Lane, Billy Robinson, Tiger Conway Jr., Terry Funk and Mr. Onita. At the end of the night Terry Funk emerged as champion, defeating Wahoo McDaniel in the final match by the disqualification route. Wahoo gained revenge a few weeks later when he took the title from Terry. Tully Blanchard is now back in action and is after a match with Wahoo.

Wahoo also has had several big battles with Harley Race, and twice came very close to winning the N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Championship from Race. Billy Robinson, meanwhile, has turned back challenges to his C.W.A. World's Heavyweight Championship from Relampago Leon and Tank Patton. In other title action: Susie Green lost the Texas Girl's Championship to Evelyn Stevens, Tiger Conway Jr. defeated Tank Patton to win the Brass Knucks title, Ivan Putski & Scott Casey captured the International Tag Team Championship from Dory Funk & Larry Lane, and Chavo Guerrero lost the International Junior Heavyweight Championship to Gino Hernandez, but then regained it in a rematch.

Other wrestlers not yet mentioned who have appeared in this region during the past two months include Juano Reynosa, Tony Torres, Henry Garcia, Jesse Turner, El Tejano, Pampero Firpo, Ray Zarte, Gary Blaze, The Sheik, Lee Cole, White Rebel, Mr. Saito, The Slave, Mario Gonzales, Apollo Estrada, Abdullah the Butcher, Tug Taylor, Nick Bockwinkel, the midgets Tiny Tom and Cowboy Lang.

THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Bob Backlund continues to turn back all challengers to his World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship. The former N.C.A.A. amateur champion has proved to be a match for the toughest of foes. Among the top ranked contenders for the title right now one would have to include "Magnificent" Don Muraco, "King Kong" Mosca, Sergeant Slaughter, George "The Animal" Steel and Killer Kahn. Other top stars in the area include Pedro Morales (holder of the W.W.F. Inter-Continental Heavyweight Championship), Bruno Sammartino (still the Living Legend), Andre the Giant, Mil Mascaras, Tony "Mr. U.S.A." Atlas and Pat Patterson. These stars have all headlined cards in the major W.W.F. arenas in the northeast which include the Boston Garden, the Pittsburgh Civic Arena, the Baltimore Civic Center, The Spectrum in Philadelphia, the Capital Centre in suburban Washington, D.C. and of course, in the world famous Madison Square Garden in New York. The major stars also headline cards in hundreds of small cities throughout the northeast. The Moondogs, King and Rex, captured the tag title from Tony Garea and Ricky Martel recently.

Other grapplers active in W.W.F. rings in the northeast during the past two months include lady wrestlers Joan Fountain, Susan Ferria, Lelani Kai, and The Fabulous Moolah (World Ladies Champion); midget wrestlers Sky Low Low, Farmer Jerome, Kid Chocolate and The Carolina Kid; and Special Delivery Jones, Domenic DeNucci, The Hangman, Yoshiaki Yatsu, Rick McGraw, Baron Mikel Scicluna, Johnny Rodz, Frank Savage, Larry Sharpe, Tony Altmore, Steve King, Pete Doherty, Angelo Gomez, "Bulldog" Brower.

Moving up to Montreal, Quebec, we find the booking office in this city is affiliated with the World Wrestling Federation and also with the Superstars of Wrestling promotion in Detroit. The current holder of the International Heavyweight Championship recognized here is Pierre "Mad Dog" Lefevre. The major feuds appear to be between the original Sensational Intelligent Destroyer and Gino Brito, between Greg Valentine and Dino Bravo and between Abdullah the Butcher and Ray Rougeau. Other stars who have appeared here recently include Andre the Giant, Swede Hansen, George Cannon, Justice Dubois, Edouard Carpentier, Len Shelly, Sergeant Slaughter, Rick Johnson, Ricky Martel and Joe Leduc.

This seems a good spot to cover the Detroit, Michigan scene since the "Superstars of Wrestling" promotion that runs shows in the major arena here (Cobo) is working in partnership in the Montreal promotion. So far the Cobo Arena shows



BIG RED

have featured The original Intelligent Sensational Destroyer, Greg Valentine, Dino Bravo, Swede Hanson, The Dark Angel, Luis Martinez, Sailor White No. 2, John Binello, Don Kent, Gino Britto, El Santos No. 2, Sweet Ebony Diamond and advertised as coming in soon are U.S. Champion Roddy Piper, Michael "Justice" Dubois, International Tag Team Champions Richard Charland & Len "Kojak" Shelly, Hossien the Arab (The Iron Sheik) and Dick the Bruiser.

Meanwhile, right here we are going to cover the other Detroit promotion, National Championship Wrestling. This group no longer runs big shows in Detroit itself at present, but they are still in business running regularly in suburban Southfield and Lincoln Park. During the past two months their cards have featured such stars as The Sheik, George Steele, Thunderbolt Patterson, Muhannid Saad, Al Costello, Malcome Monroe, The Bug, Ali Pasha, Bobby Colt, Joe Matti, Al Barr, Chris Carter, Crusher Cortez, Jim Waddell, Rick Bolton, Haru Sanada, Pat Shane, Mike Wick, and The Mighty Igor.

Now we will jump out to California and cover the promotions of Mike LeBell in Los Angeles and southern California. The top singles title in the area — the Americas' Heavyweight Championship, continues to be held by Victor Rivera as it has been since the beginning of this year. Chris Adams holds the famous "Beat The Champ" Television Trophy. There are two tag team titles in the area, the Americas' and the World, with both being held by the brother combination of John and Rick Davidson. Since our last issue the World T.T.C. passed from The Twin Devils to the Davidson's, while the Americas' T.T.C. passed from El Mongol and "Mean" Mike Masters to "Cowboy" Tim Prichard and Chris Adams to the Davidson's.

Other wrestlers who have appeared on cards in this area during the past two months include Al Madril, Chuco Flores, John Tolos, Ox Baker, Great Goliath, Tony "Hot Stuff" Rodriguez, The Assassin, Dos Caras, Bobo Brazil, Ken Wayne, Mil Mascaras, The Dynamite Kid, Salvatore Bellomo, Prof. Toru Tanaka, Rick McGraw, Tim Tall Tree, "Bad News" Allen Coage, Mario and Joel Valenzuela, Bobo Brazil and lady wrestlers Sandy Parker and Aggie Henry.

THE NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

The National Wrestling Alliance continues to be the largest co-operative of wrestling promoters in the world, and has members around the globe. The organization itself recognizes World's Championships in three different weight classes: heavyweight (unlimited), junior heavyweight (225 pound limit) and

lightheavyweight (200 pound limit). The present champions, according to the latest reports we have received, are Harley Race — the World's Heavyweight Champion, Les Thornton — the World's Junior Heavyweight Champion, and Alfonso Dantes — the World's Lightheavyweight Champion. There are other championships we have seen designated in advertising as N.W.A. titles, however, as far as the official reports we have received from the N.W.A. to date, there are only three championships recognized by the organization and these other titles are simply titles recognized by individual N.W.A. members and are not recognized by the N.W.A. as a whole.

The first area we will cover is Mid Atlantic Wrestling, which has its headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina, and which is headed by Jim and David Crockett. Jim Crockett is also the president of the entire National Wrestling Alliance. Mid Atlantic Wrestling promotes cards throughout the Carolinas and Virginias. One of the largest and most successful promotional organizations in the sport, they have an average of three different cards in three different cities each night of the week. The Mid Atlantic organization also works very closely with the promotions in Toronto (which will be covered next) and with the Superstars Wrestling group in Canada (which was covered earlier in the Montreal and Detroit reports in the W.W.F. section).

Roddy Piper continues to hold the United States Heavyweight Championship. The man he won the title from, Ric Flair, continues to be his most persistent challenger. Bob Backlund has also visited the area several times and defended the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship during the past two months. Ricky Steamboat continues to hold the Mid Atlantic Heavyweight Championship, The Television Championship was vacant in our last report and remains so, although the tournament for it continues.

In tag team competition, the area's World's Tag Team Championship has changed hands twice. Ray Stevens and Ivan Koloff captured it from The Superstar and Paul Jones, but then lost it back to them a few weeks later. Mr. Fuji and Tenryu continue to hold the Mid Atlantic Tag Team Championship.

The top rated television program has seen one major change. Promoter David Crockett has retired as co-commentator to concentrate on his other duties, and he has been replaced by the great British wrestling star, Lord Alfred Hayes. Hayes has proved to be very knowledgeable on the mike, and comes across very well.

Harley Race, the N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion, has been here several times recently defending his title. Among the challengers he turned back have been Ric Flair, Black Jack Mulligan and Ricky Steamboat.

Some of the more successful tag teams



JIMMY SNUKA

here have included George Wells and Sweet Ebony Diamond, Ole and Gene Anderson, Ray Stevens and Greg Valentine, Dewey Robertson and Bruno Sammartino Jr., Gene Lewis and Kurt von Hess, Charlie Fulton and Steve Muslin, Ben Alexander and Jim Nelson. One of the most potent feuds going is that between Black Jack Mulligan and The Iron Sheik (Hossien Arab) who have been at each other at every chance for quite a few months now.

Other grapplers who have appeared on the Mid Atlantic cards during the past two months include Bobby Duncum, Jimmy Snuka, Mr. Wrestling II, Ron Ritchie, Ricky Ferrara, Frank Monte, Ricky Harris, Cy Jernigan, Johnny Weaver, Abe Jacobs, Andre the Giant, Jacques Goulet, Swede Hanson, Don Kernodle, Mike Fever and Nick DeCarlo. The Television Championship elimination tournament had come down to two men — Sweet Ebony Diamond and Greg Valentine — according to latest reports when we went to press, so we should be able to report the new champion in our next "On and Around the Mat World" column.

The second N.W.A. booking office we will look at in this section is the one in Toronto, Ontario, Canada — headed by Frank Tunney, one of the top promoters in the sport for many years now. The man on top in Toronto continues to be Angelo "King Kong" Mosca who has held the coveted Canadian Heavyweight Championship recognized there since the first of the year. In Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens, Mosca has turned back challenges from The Iron Sheik (former champion), Ivan Koloff and Jimmy Snuka — finally earning for himself a title shot at World's Champion Harley Race that saw him come very close to winning that title. Other grapplers who have appeared on cards here during the past two months include Ray Stevens, The Superstar, Mad Dog Vachon, Bobby Duncum, Swede Hanson, Sweet Ebony Diamond, Dewey Robertson, Tony Parisi, Kurt von Hess, Cowboy Frankie Lane, Ron Ritchie, Bruno Sammartino Jr., The original Intelligent Sensational Destroyer, Tim Gerrard and Johnny Weaver. Also, another chapter in one of the biggest feuds in professional wrestling history was fought here in Toronto when The Incredible Hulk Hogan met Andre the Giant. This office also promotes cards regularly in Kitchener, London and Kingston, Ontario; and in Niagara Falls and Buffalo, New York.

Next we will look at the promotions of Georgia Championship Wrestling. This booking office in Atlanta is headed by Paul Jones and Jim Barnett. Their television programs on KTBS-Channel 17 are probably the most widely watched of any in the world for that station is beamed off of a satellite and is now seen on cable television systems from coast to coast which go into approximately 20 percent of the homes in this country. With cable

televisions rapid growth, that total is probably increasing daily.

First we will look at the area titles. The Mongolian Stomper continues to hold the National Heavyweight Championship. Steve Kiern has captured the National Television Championship from Kevin Sullivan. Tony "Mr. U.S.A." Atlas continues to hold the Georgia State Heavyweight Championship. Bobby Eaton has captured the Georgia State Junior Heavyweight Championship from Steve "O" Olsonoski. The Freebirds (Michael Hayes, Bobby Roberts and Terry Gordy) continue to hold the Georgia State Tag Team Championship, and Harley Race, the National Wrestling Alliance World's Heavyweight Champion, have defended their titles in this area during the past two months.

Among the leading stars not already mentioned that have appeared here recently have been Joe Leduc, Jim Duggan, Bobby Garrett, Don Carson, Rocket Monroe, Abdul Zaatar, Tommy Rich, Mr. Wrestling II, Ted DiBiase, Jerry and Ted Oates, Charlie Cook, Bill Dromo, Mike Davis, Gerald Finley, Burrhead Jones and The Junkyard Dog. In and out of the area have been Dusty Rhodes, Andre the Giant, Bob and Brad Armstrong, Ivan Koloff, N.W.A. World's Junior Heavyweight Champion Les Thornton and Gene and Ole Anderson. Lady wrestlers Joyce Grable, Judy Martin, Carol Summers, Susan Starr, Betty Clark and Jill Fountain have also made appearances.

Next we will travel to Florida for a look at the wrestling there. Dick Slater has been stripped of the top singles title there

— the Southern Heavyweight Championship — for not defending it. The title was awarded to Sweet Brown Sugar. Barry Windham continues to hold the Florida State Heavyweight Championship. Manny Fernandez has captured the Florida Television Championship from Baron von Rashke, and there is a tournament going on now to name a Florida State Junior Heavyweight Championship.

On the tag team scene, Dusty Rhodes and Andre the Giant teamed to win the Florida State Tag Team Championship. However, Andre's commitments elsewhere have not allowed him to return to Florida enough recently and he and Rhodes are thus in danger of being stripped of that title for not defending it. Fans in that state are not without tag team title matches to watch, however, because a recent tournament was held in Jacksonville to name holders of the new North American Tag Team Champions for this area, and it was won by the team of The Assassin No. 1 and The Assassin No. 3. Other grapplers who have appeared here recently include Buggy McGraw, Mr. Pogo, Sgt. Jacques Goulet, Port Tampa Terror, The Superfly, Jerry Brisco, Bill Irwin, Scott McGhee, Kim Sung, Reggie Parks, Lord Alfred Hayes, Mike Graham, El Gran Apollo, Nikolai Volkoff, Gerald Finley, Dory and Terry Funk, Mr. Wrestling II, Ole Anderson, Hans Schroeder, Hiro Matsuda and the World's Heavyweight Champions as recognized by the National Wrestling Alliance in both the Junior Heavyweight (Les Thornton) and Heavyweight (Harley Race) weight classes.



THE STOMPER AND MANAGER DON CARSON

Next we will look at the wrestling scene in Alabama. According to our last reports, Ron Bass has taken the Southeastern Heavyweight Championship from The Tennessee Studd, while the team of father Bob and son Brad Armstrong continue to hold the Southeastern Tag Team Championship. Jerry Stubbs holds the area's Junior Heavyweight Championship. Other grapplers active in the area recently include Ken Lucas, Jimmy Golden, Paul Orndorff, Norvel Austin, Mr. Saito, Randy Rose, Dennis Condrey, Roy Lee Welch, Robert Gibson, Tom Horne, Ron Slinker, Oki Shikina and girl grapplers Joyce Grable and Judy Martin.

From here we will travel to Dallas, Texas, for a look at the promotional office that runs cards weekly in both Dallas and Fort Worth. First we will take a look at the singles titles recognized in this area.

Mil Mascaras has been in and out of the area defending his International Heavyweight Championship. The Brass Knucks title is held by Bruiser Brody. The Texas State Heavyweight Championship is held by David von Erich. On the tag team scene, there are three major titles here. Kevin and David von Erich recently captured the area's World's Tag Team Championship from Hercules Ayala and Ali Mustafa. Kerry von Erich and Bruiser Brody hold the U.S. American Tag Team Championship. Billy White Cloud and Raul Matta hold the Texas State Tag Team Championship. And N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion Harley Race has made several defenses in the region during the past two months. Former holder of that title Lou Thesz has made several appearances during the past few weeks as a special referee.

Other top stars on Dallas-Fort Worth cards during the past two months include Raul Castro, Brain Blair, Ricky Romero, Jessie Barr, Chan Chung, Alberto Madril, Carlos Zapata, The Spoiler, Jose Lothario, Kabuki, "Lawman" Don Slatton, The Monk, Ox Baker, The Blue Demon, Tim Brooks, Gary Hart, and David Manning.

The next area we will cover will be the promotions of the Tulsa Booking Office. Promoter LeRoy McGuirk is chairman of the Junior Heavyweight division of the National Wrestling Alliance and handles the bookings of Les Thornton, World's Champion of that weight class. He also promotes wrestling in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and parts of Missouri and Texas. Recently the N.W.A. promoter in Amarillo, Texas, Jerry Kozak started to book his talent from the Amarillo office.

General Scandor Akbar has an army that holds the titles in this area. Mike George is the Tri-State Heavyweight Champion and Jerry Brown & Ron McFarlane hold the Tri-States Tag Team Championship. However, Tom Jones (former singles champ) is hot on Mike George's trail as is Mike's former tag



PAUL ORNDORFF

team partner, who he double crossed -- Bruiser Bob Sweetan. Ricky Morton has emerged as the top Junior Heavyweight contender here. Others who have wrestled in the area during the past two months include Wahoo McDaniel, The Spoiler, Bobby Jagers, David & Kevin von Erich, Chief Frank Hill, Rufus R. Jones, Paul & Terry Orndorff, Ken Milsap, Joe Stark, Tommy Wright, and Billy Starr. In addition both the Heavyweight and Junior Heavyweight World's Champions as recognized by the National Wrestling Alliance -- Harley Race and Les Thornton -- have visited the area. In Amarillo action, Dick Murdoch made a short trip home but was unable to win the Tri-State title in a championship match against Mike

George. Other stars, besides the grapplers from the Tulsa office, who have appeared on recent Amarillo cards include Dan Johnson, Dennis Stamp, Ricky Romero, Ted Heath, and Bobby Pico.

In the Kansas City area, the title holders remain the same since our report two months ago. "Bulldog" Bob Brown holds the Central states Heavyweight Championship and has turned back such challengers as Bobby Jagers, and Buzz Tyler. Pat & Mike Kelly continue to hold the Central States Tag Team Championship and have turned back challenges from such teams as Rufus R. Jones & Bruce Reed, Bulldog Bob Brown & Terry Taylor, and Pat O'Connor & Art Crews. Other grapplers who have appeared in the



PAT O'CONNOR LEGLOCKS NICK BOCKWINKEL

area recently include Mike Blood, Sonny Myers, Tommy Sharp, James J. Dillon, Bruiser Bob Sweetan, Tom Andrews, Tiny Anderson, and World's Heavyweight Champion Harley Race.

Next we will move over to St. Louis where promoter Sam Muchnick has presented some outstanding cards recently. Ted DiBiase continues to hold the Missouri State Heavyweight Championship. Harley Race continues to hold the World's Heavyweight title after a match with Dick the Bruiser in St. Louis, but everyone watching including promoter Muchnick feels that Race actually jumped over the top rope causing an automatic disqualification of The Bruiser for throwing him over. Other grapplers who have appeared on cards here during the past couple of months include "Big" John Studd, "King Kong" Brody, Dick Murdoch, Ken Patera, Baron von Raschke, Johnny Valiant, Bobo Brazil, "Spike" Huber, J.J. Dillon, Pat O'Connor, Buzz Tyler, Tommy Sharp, Terry Taylor, Tom Andrews, Tiny Anderson, Max Blue, David & Kerry von Erich, Rufus R. Jones, Pat & Mike Kelly, "Bulldog" Bob Brown, Bruce Reed, Ox Baker, Art Crews, and "Nature Boy" Ric Flair.

Next we will travel over to Hawaii for a look at the promotions of High Chief Peter Maivia. The Polynesian Heavyweight Championship continues to be held by "King" Ripper Collins who has turned back challenges recently from "Magnificent" Don Muraco and "Handsome" Buddy Diamond. The Super Somoans (Sakalia & Tui Sialiga) continue to hold the Polynesian Tag Team Championship. The White Angel captured the Hawaiian State Heavyweight Championship. The White Angel captured the Hawaiian State Heavyweight Championship recently in a one night tournament, defeating Tama Tonga in the finals. Others involved in the competition were Billy White Wolf, Bull Fanene, Buddy Diamond, "Avenger" Whipper Watson Jr., Roy Starr, Wonder Boy Malo, Ernie Stevens, The Gladiator, and Mighty Milo. Others active in the rings of our 50th state recently include Hiro Sasaki, Tony Hall, Gil Hayes. Also, the return of Hayes has induced promoter Peter Maivia to return to the ring himself for they have been arch enemies for some time and Maivia wants to personally send Mr. Hayes packing.

Portland, Oregon, is the headquarters of promoter Don Owens who presents cards

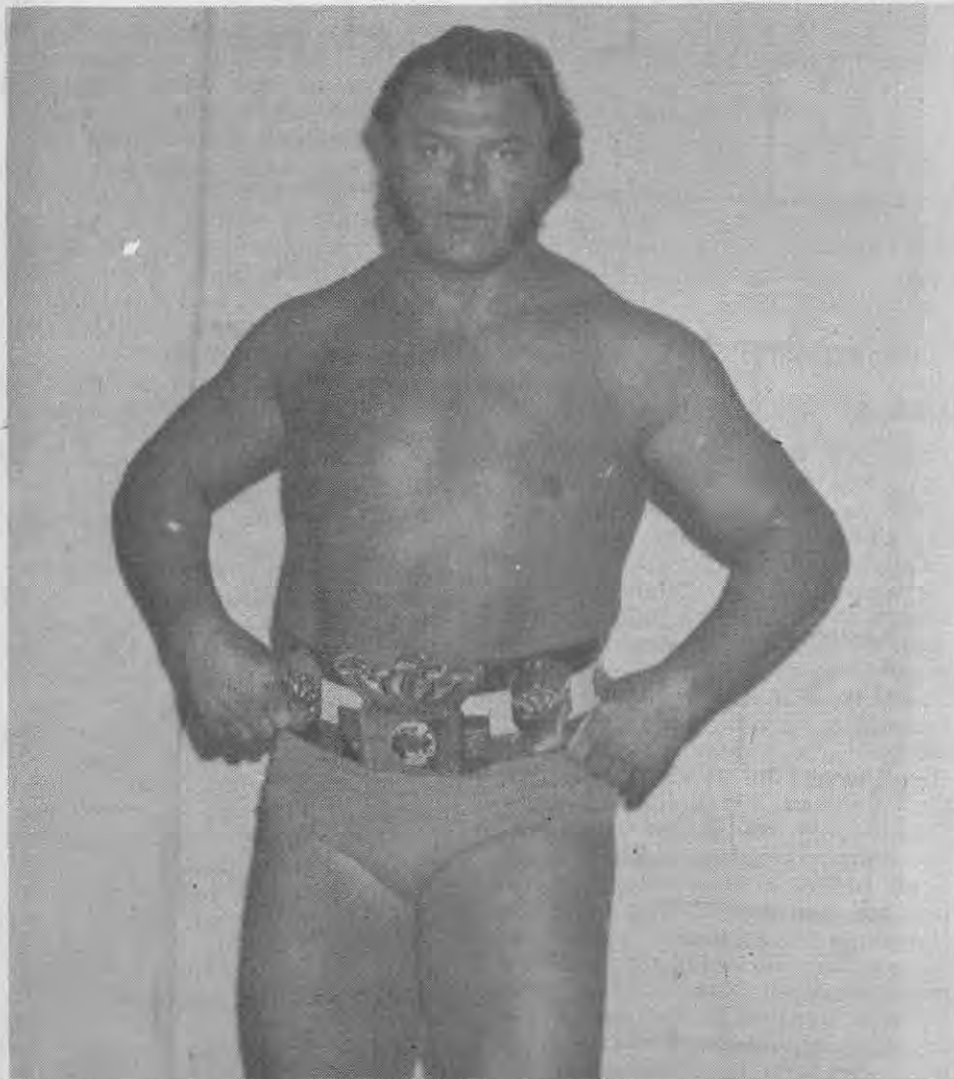
throughout that state. Jay Youngblood continues to hold the Northwest Heavyweight Championship which he won from Buddy Rose. The masked Destroyer & Rip Oliver defeated Youngblood and Joe Lightfoot to win the Northwest Heavyweight Championship. As we reported in our last issue, Buddy Rose threw the Northwest Heavyweight Championship belt off the Fremont Bridge into the Willamette River rather than give it up to Jay Youngblood and was fined \$2,500 which was used to purchase a new title belt. The promoter Owens forced Rose to present that new belt to Youngblood on a television program. A lot of people expected more fireworks but Buddy calmly presented it and told Youngblood that he did not mind because the new belt would soon belong to him (Rose).

Rose was also involved in an altercation with Johnny Boyd. According to Boyd, Rose along with Oliver and The Destroyer, jumped Boyd in a parking lot in Seattle and Boyd suffered a broken nose. Boyd says he is going to come back and get even with Rose soon. Other grapplers active in the Portland area recently include Matt Borne, Buzz Sawyer, Dutch Savage, Jimmy Sifi, Stan Stasiak, Terry Allen, Tony Borne, Tonga John, Igor Volkoff, and Gene Kiniski. These same grapplers and titles are involved in action in Seattle and other parts of the state of Washington.

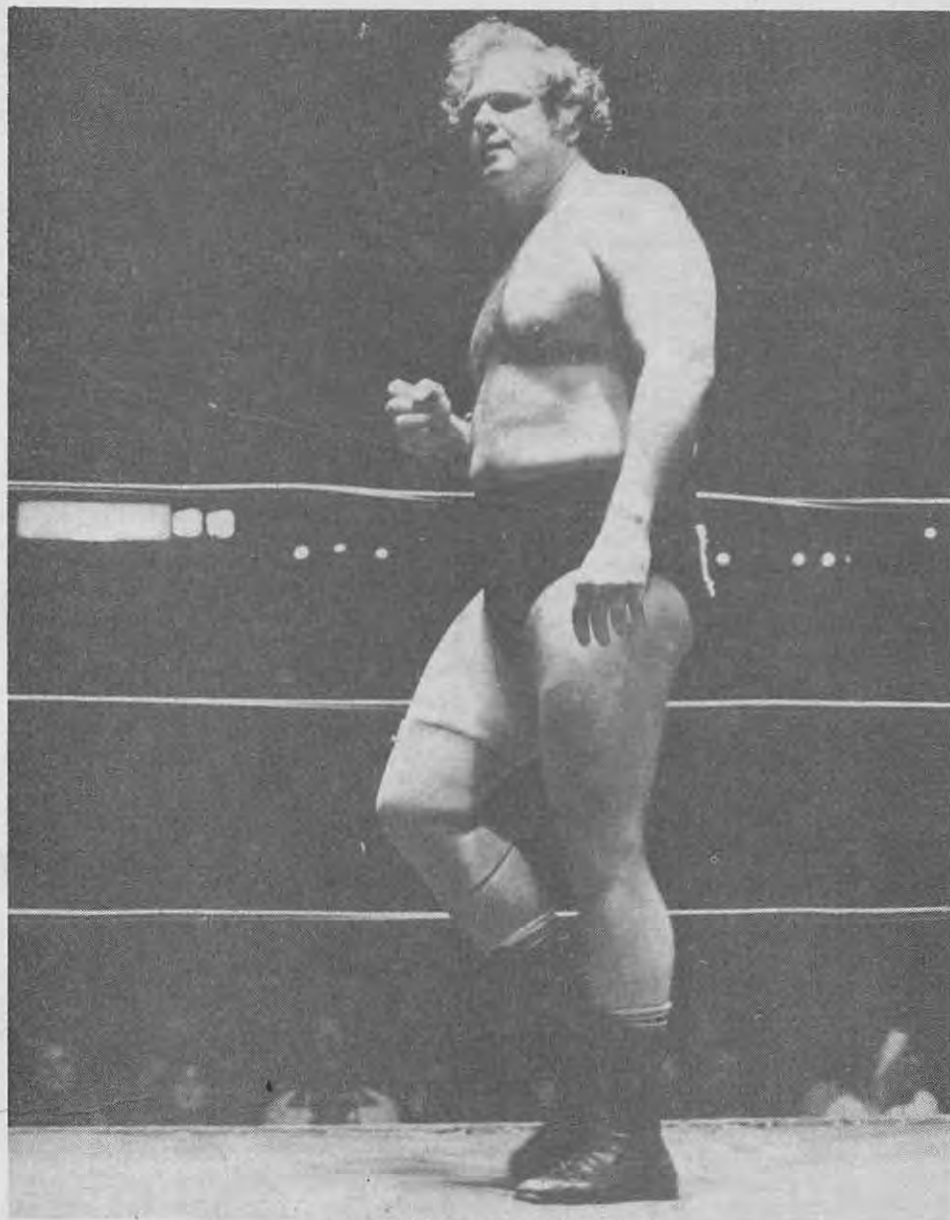
Up north of the border many of the same stars appear on the promotions of the Vancouver booking office. There Jay Youngblood defeated Buddy Rose for the Pacific Coast Heavyweight Championship, and then he beat Rose again in an Indian Strap match with veteran star Don Leo Jonathan as the special referee. However, Rip Oliver and Buddy Rose teamed to take the Canadian Open Tag Team Championship from Jay Youngblood and Joe Lightfoot.

Other grapplers active here during the past two months included Kelly Kiniski, Moose Morowski, Al Tomko, Igor Volkoff, Gene Kiniski, The Destroyers (Number 1 and Number 2), and Don Leo Jonathan.

Moving over to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, we find that promoter Stu Hart continues to promote throughout that Province. The area North American Heavyweight Championship is held by his son Bret, while the area International Tag Team Championship belongs to Mike Sharpe Jr. & Duke Myers, who are being managed by John Foley. Other wrestlers who have appeared on cards in Alberta during the past two months include Bruce & Keith Hart, David Schultz, Jim Neidhardt, The Dynamite Kid, Bobby & Leo Burke, Mr. Sakurada, Mr. Hito, The Cuban Assassin, Goldie Rogers, Otis Taylor, Hubert Gallant, T.G. Stone, Randy Webber, Kelly Kiniski, Kerry Brown, Elton Stanton, and Charles Buffong.



DON LEO JONATHAN



COWBOY BILL WATTS

THE MID SOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Professional Wrestling is really booming in the states of Louisiana and Mississippi under the banner of the Mid South Wrestling Association. Matchmakers Gil & George Culkin in Mississippi and Grizzly Smith in Louisiana have drawn their all time record crowds in many places recently, and the super spectaculars every few months in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans have also drawn crowds well over 20,000 in number.

As we go to press the Superdome is to be the scene of a tournament for the Mid South Wrestling Association Tag Team Championship. This one night event will feature some of the top tag teams in the sport.

Entries have already been accepted from the following combinations. Jake Roberts & Jim Garvin, The Super

Destroyer & The Grappler, The Samoans (Afi & Sika), Dusty Rhodes & Andre the Giant, Tony Charles & Don Diamond, Ernie Ladd & Bad LeRoy Brown, The Fabulous Freebirds (Michael Hayes, Terry Gordy & Buddy Roberts), Colonel Buck Robley & Killer Karl Kox, and The Junkyard Dog & Dick Murdoch. Other grapplers active in the area recently include Mike Miller, Terry Latham, Carl Fergie, Kelly Kiniski, King Cobra, Bull Ramos, Cocoa Samoa, and "Precious" Paul Ellering. Jim Garvin recently took the Louisiana State Heavyweight Championship from Ernie "Cat" Ladd. The Grappler continues to hold both the North American Heavyweight Championship and the Mississippi State Heavyweight Championship. Cowboy Bill Watts continues to hold the Brass Knucks trophy. We hope to have a feature on the tag team tournament in the Superdome in our next issue. The Atlanta booking office, covered earlier in the N.W.A. section, also holds membership in the M.S.W.A.

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

The I.C.W. promotes wrestling in Kentucky and Virginia. According to our latest reports, the following titles are recognized by this organization. U.S. Tag Team Champions: "Leaping" Lanny Poffo & George Weingerhoff. World's Heavyweight Champion: Randy Savage. Southeastern Heavyweight Champion: Ronnie Garvin. T.V. Champion: Bob Orton Jr. Other wrestlers active in the area recently included Rick Starr, "Pistol" Pez Whatley, The Miser, Crusher Broomfield, Bob Roop, The Devil's Duo (Doug Vines & Jeff Sword managed by Izzy Slapawitz), "Hustler" Rip Rogers, Tennessee Stud, Tony Falk, Ric McCord, and Terry Harris.

There, we have completed another trip "On And Around The Mat World." Since there are approximately 20 cards a day held in North America with an average of ten matches per card, and since wrestling is promoted seven days a week in this country, it is impossible to cover all wrestling matches. We try, in this column to pick out the most important ones. If you multiply 20 cards per day times 10 matches times 60 days you find that there are a total of over 12,000 matches held somewhere in North America during the period of two months between each column I write. What is reported here is just the tip of the iceberg as far as the number one spectator sport in the world is concerned. It would not be possible to produce this column without a lot of help. I wish to especially thank Diane Devine, Karen Beckman, Jim Ross, Paul Abramoff, John E. Pinzker, Chris Hanson, Mark Gallo, Pat Malone, Ray Kelly, Mario Reyes, Boyd Pierce, Leonard J. Orner, Aaron Price, Don Valenti, Harold Pfeiffer, Virginia-Maria Bowes, Jayne Mullins, Darlene DeSantis, Scott Denny, Allan Cooper, Mike Cooper, Jeff Walton, Gene Gordon, Carrie Albert, Danny Condon, Doug Chambers, Richard Schipper, Charles Augustoni III, K.J. Hobbs, Gerry Smith, Jay West, Eloise Mascorro, Bill Wilson, Herbert O. Campbell, Tom Burke, Terry Justice, Jeffrey A. Howell, Victor Maes, George Labash, and Bill Lewis. This column is based on reports, clippings, and programs that they sent. We appreciate their help and also that of any others who might choose to help us in the future. We are the only wrestling magazine that attempts to cover the sport completely around the world. To do this we ask that all promoters and fans send us clippings, programs, and reports on what is happening in their areas so that we can make Area Close-Ups as complete as possible. We look forward to hearing from you. Just send your news to Area Close-Ups, The Wrestling News, P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56001. ■

JAPANESE WRESTLING NEWS

AREA CLOSE-UP REPORTS COMPILED FROM REPORTS BY KOICHI YOSHIKAWA

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION

The Pacific Wrestling Federation promotion in Japan continues to hold membership in both the American Wrestling Association and the National Wrestling Alliance. As we look over the past two months of action, here are some of the top bouts. Harley Race traveled to Japan and defended his N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Championship against the challenge of Dick Murdoch in a match that ended with a no contest decision. Then he retained that title again against the challenge of Shohei "Giant" Baba, but lost the match via a disqualification. Other grapplers active in P.W.F. rings during the period were Dos Caras, Jumbo Tsuruta, The Twin Devils, Tiger Toguchi (Kim Duk), Mario Milano, Killer Karl Kox, Rocky Hata, Bulldog Bob Brown, The Mighty Okuma, The Great Kojika, Akio Stao, Takashi Ishikawa, Mitsuo Momoto, Mr. Hayashi, Yoshihiro Momota, Etsuro Koshinaka.

Next came a tournament that featured Jack Brisco, Abdullah the Butcher, Bruiser Brody, Killer Brooks, The Avenger, Wayne Ferris, Dory & Terry Funk, and Prince Tonga who is one of the regular stars of this group but who had just returned from a long stay in Hawaii.

The champions as recognized by the Pacific Wrestling Federation (Lord James Blears, President) continue to be: P.W.F. H.C.: Shohei "Giant" Baba, U.N.H.C.: Jumbo Tsuruta. International H.C.: title vacant. P.W.F. T.T.C.: Jumbo Tsuruta & Giant Baba, Asia T.T.C.: The Great Kojika & The Mighty Okuma.

A very significant connection, or rather series of connections, has developed between the wrestling promotions here in Japan and those in Mexico. As noted earlier, all three of the major promotions in Japan have featured wrestlers from Mexico during the past few months. The reverse is also true.

The N.W.F. promotion in Japan has formed an alliance with the U.W.A. promotion in Mexico headed by promoter Francisco Flores. During the past few months such regular stars as El Gran Hamada, Kengo Kimura, Satoru Sayama, Kurusu, Kuniaki Kobayashi, Tatsumi "Dragon" Fujinami, Deiji Sakaguchi, Killer Kahn, Shozo "Strong" Kobayashi, and Antonio Inoki have all appeared in U.W.A. cards in Mexico.

The P.W.F. promotion also works closely with the N.W.A. promotion in Mexico headed by Salvador Lutteroth Jr. The P.W.F. Heavyweight Champion recently traveled to Mexico City where he teamed up with Mil Mascaras to go against the great American team of Dory & Terry Funk, who are both former N.W.A.

World's Heavyweight Champions, as is Giant Baba.

NATIONAL WRESTLING FEDERATION

The N.W.F. promotion in Japan continues to hold membership in both the World Wrestling Federation and the National Wrestling Alliance. The top star is Antonio Inoki, who holds the N.W.F. Heavyweight Championship. Looking back over the highlights of the past two months. At the start of this period, Inoki turned back the challenge to his title by American strongman Ken Patera. Then a few days later Inoki was in the position of challenger as Tiger Jeet Singh brought his own heavyweight championship to Japan. Singh holds recognition by the U.W.A. of Mexico, and brought this title here to defend it against Inoki, the man Singh had captured that title from in Mexico last year. But the Japanese star was disqualified in a wild U.W.A. title match with Singh who thus remains U.W.A. king.

The N.W.F. also has a North American H.C. which is held by Seiji Sakaguchi. He successfully defended this crown against the challenge of Enforcer Luciano. Sakaguchi is also co-holder of the N.W.F. Tag Team Championship with Riki Choshu. They successfully defended that title against the challenge of The Samoans.

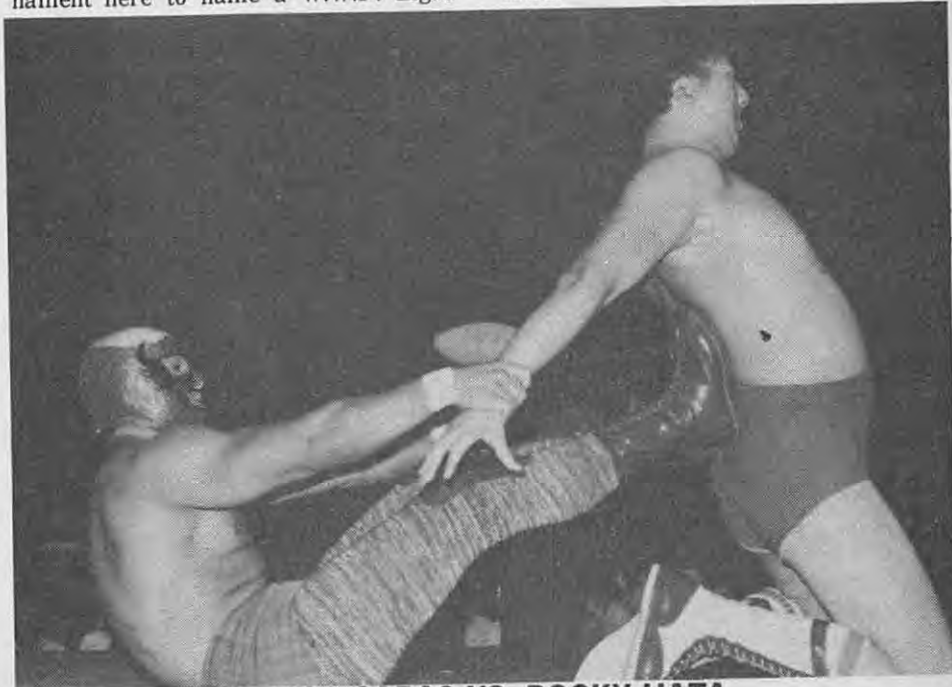
World Wrestling Federation Junior Heavyweight Champion Tatsumi "Dragon" Fujinami successfully turned back the challenge of Kengo Kimura for that title. The W.W.F. also held a tournament here to name a W.W.F. Light-

weight Champion. Those who entered were George Takano, El Gran Hamada, Fishman, El Anival, and Perro Aguayo. In the final match, Aguayo defeated Hamada to become the champion of the W.W.F. in this weight division.

Other stars who have appeared on N.W.F. promotions in Japan during the past two months include Bobby Duncum, Bad News Allen Coage, Shozo Kobayashi, Osamu Kido, Mokoto Arakawa, Yoshiaki Fujiwara, Haruka Eigen, "Magnificent" Don Muraco, Kantaro Hoshino, The Incredible Hulk Hogan, and Killer Kahn. Expected soon are El Canek (who just captured the U.W.A.H.C. from Tiger Jeet Singh in Mexico), Tick McGraw, Kuroenko, Vico (from Africa), Abid Isram (from Pakistan), Stan Hansen, The Dynamite Kid (from England) and W.W.F. Heavyweight Champion Bob Backlund.

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING ENTERPRISE

The I.W.E. is the smallest of the major promotions in Japan. They are continuing their tournament which started around the first of the year for the Lou Thesz title belt. (The former World's Heavyweight Champion), "Crazy" Luke Graham, Ray Candy, Mike Boyette, The Red Devil, two wrestlers from Mexico named Covalde and Eldores, Isamu Teranishi, The Mighty Inoue, Oiyama, Mach Hayato, and expected to enter the competition soon are Steve Olsonoski, Paul Ellering and Ashura Hara.



DOS CARAS VS. ROCKY HATA
WRESTLING MAGAZINE 49

THE WRESTLING SCENE IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Tom Burke

Pick up a newspaper any day of the week and you can read a new release from someplace in South Africa. That nation is always in the news due to the apartheid society (racial segregation) of that country. This article is not one of a political nature but, a look at the world of professional wrestling at the tip of Africa.

The sport of professional wrestling has been promoted by former wrestling great, Bull Hefner and his associates, Sammy Cohen and Ted Kitchner. These three gentlemen have formed a wrestling promotion known as International All In Wrestling.

A decade ago this writer wrote a article about the same subject for another wrestling magazine, and at that time I stated that the Wrestling Control Board of South Africa only permitted matches between wrestlers of the same race against each other. Today, that has changed. Inter-racial matches have taken part on various wrestling promotions in South Africa.

The Hefner group is the largest group with international ties having such well known mat talents as: Don Leo Jonathan, Mario Milano, Spiros Arion, Gilles "The Fish" Poisson, Abe Jacobs, Randy Morse, England's Kojak Kirk, Otto Wanz from Austria, Seiji Sagaguchi of Japan, Hans Rookers from Germany, and Dalibar Tiger Singh from India. These along with others have featured their talents on the wrestling promotions of Bull Hefner and associates.

Notably missing are any major Black names in the sport, however, that situation will be changing soon for the Hefner group as negotiations are going on with several major named Black stars to appear in South Africa in the future.

The Hefner groups promotes in major cities all over South Africa as well as in Namibia. Twenty years of promoting in this country has proved a success for him, and the wrestlers that have worked for him.

Another group active in South Africa is the Mia Promotions of Cape Town. This group imported the first Black wrestler from outside the country. George Burgish from Jamaica recently made his debut in South Africa facing rough and rowdy Willie Grove in the first major international mixed racial match in South Africa. The match took place this past March 9th in Cape Town.

There is still another promotional body in South Africa based out of Durban headed by Indian businessman, Dennis Govender. Mr. Govender has been very instrumental in getting the Wrestling Board of Control to allow mixed matches. In his own promotions there is no apartheid. Mr. Govender imports talent from Asia and other African nations to fill his cards with exciting talent.

One of the biggest attractions in South Africa is Moondog King. He and the Indian Star, Dalibar Singh drew over 18,000 fans in an outdoor show in Durban last summer. Promoter Hefner is in a state of negotiations with both wrestlers about having a return match. Mr. Singh knocked out King's front teeth to give him gap a that still exists today.

Jan Wilkens is the world champion as recognized by Buff Hefner, and the Continental Wrestling Association located in Europe. Wilkens won his title from Don Leo Jonathan several years ago in Durban, South Africa.

One of the major stars in South Africa is the masked terror known as Boerseun which means Farmer's Boy. "He is the most dangerous man in professional wrestling," states, promoter Sammy Cohen.

The walls of segregation are falling by little in the sport of professional wrestling. Ten years from now I hope to be able to update this article with news that top American and other Black stars are appearing on a regular schedule in South Africa.



TARZAN GOVENDER



PROMOTER SAM COHEN AND BOERSEUN.



WILLIE OLIVER AND FLASH FOURIE - FORMER SOUTH AFRICAN MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONS
50 WRESTLING MAGAZINE

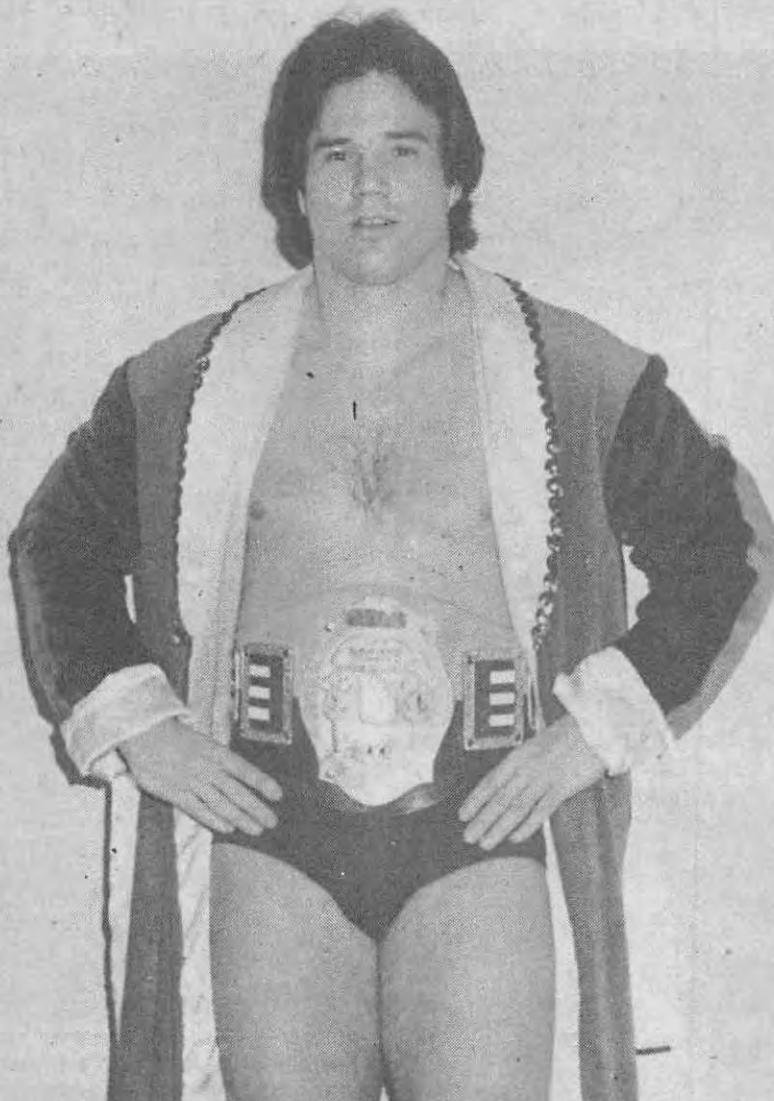


TIGER ELLAPPEN

STEVE O — A PRINCE NOT A PAUPER

Photo By Mike Gratchner

By Vickie Lynn Goddard



He's young. He's strong. He's proven to be a winner. And he has the potential to be even better. His name is Steve Olsonoski. You know him simply as a Steve O., the young superstar that has crept into the thoughts of many a daydreaming wrestling fan. He is someone to be remembered for his ring style and mat maneuvers are close to perfection. And he is not easily forgotten, if you get the chance to stand next to him, and chat with him, and to see what a deep person he really is.

At twenty-seven years of age, Steve is a model to other grapplers, both newcomers and veterans. He's had his share of being pushed around and now he's showing them all, just how to win and in the all-American way.

"I want to be different," he told me with a sparkle in his eyes. "To be that one wrestler that stands apart from all the rest." And separated he is; by his actions, his tie-dyed trunks, and even his approach to his devoted fans. He is always Steve O. Never does he put on airs and try to be

someone he's not, because it's quite obvious that he likes being himself. And the fans like it that way too. He's the guy that the young girls pray to see, the old folks pay to see, and the kids always wait to see for an autograph that makes their day.

It's easy to understand why Steve O. is so very athletic. He comes from a large family, having four brothers and one sister. His next younger brother played with the Kansas City Chiefs, and later the Vikings. Another sibling now attends the University of Minnesota on a football scholarship.

Steve himself prepared in high school and college, participating in all of the sports offered. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary and secondary education, and taught physical education in a Junior High School.

The importance of athletics, and the desire to be involved in sports and their training was stressed throughout Steve's childhood. Even long before Steve existed, a sports emphasis was taking place in the Olsonoski household. Steve's father played

football for the University of Minnesota and then had a five year career with the Green Bay Packers. Steve owes much to his father for his inherited love of sports, and is proud to admit it.

His family ties are close ones, and his Polish lineage is something very dear to him. Because of his respect for his family and its fine generation of guidance to him, he often refers to himself as the "Polish Prince of Wrestling".

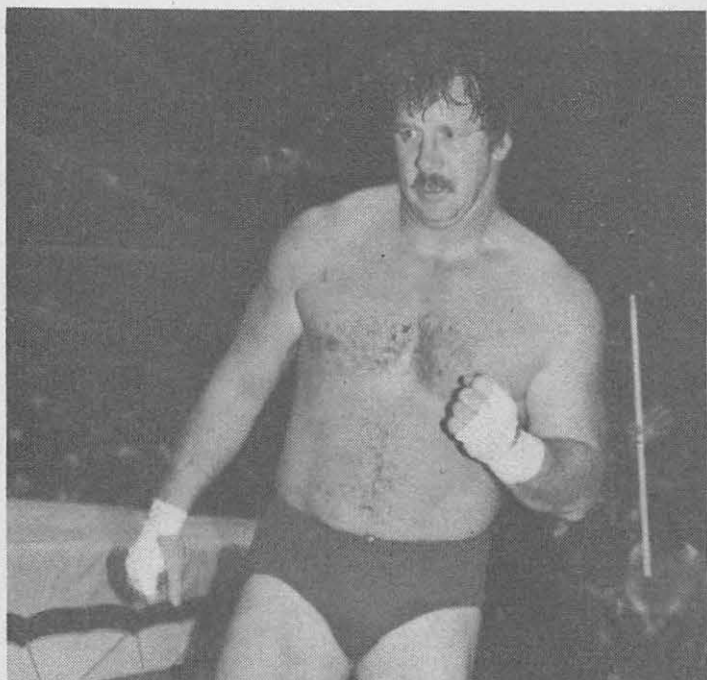
And Prince he is, as he has taken many a crown in the glamorous world of professional wrestling. At the present time he holds the Georgia Junior Heavyweight Championship, which he managed to tear away from a rough competitor named Stan Lane. He has been twice the National Television Champion and hopes to regain this prestigious title in the not too distant future.

With an almost majestic style, Steve O. is heir to the many assests of professional wrestling. And I think the reign of the Polish Prince has only just began. ■

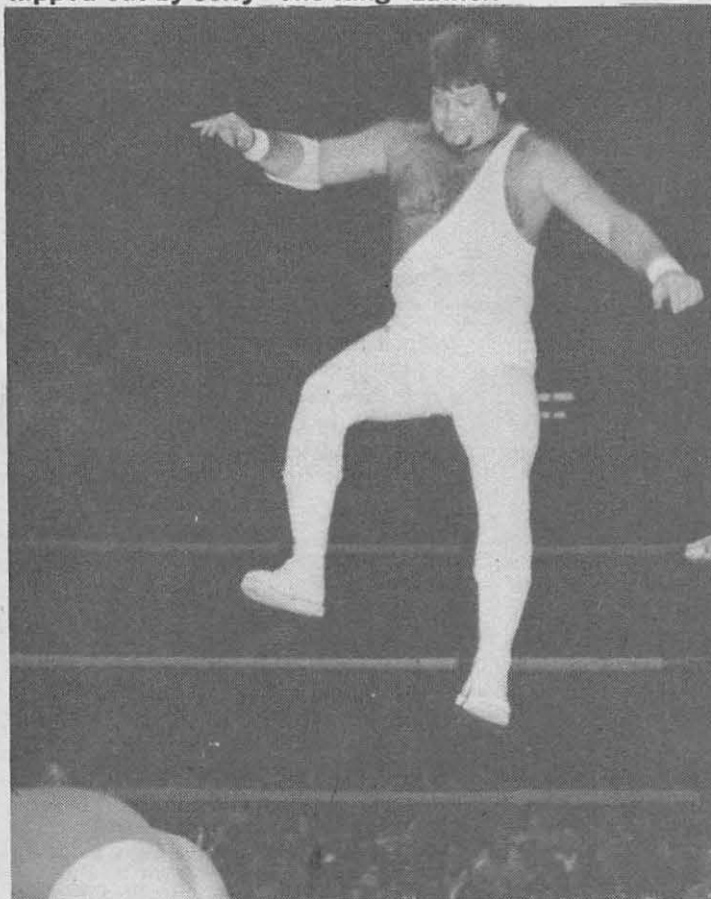
WRESTLING MAGAZINE 51

JERRY "THE KING" LAWLER BEATS TERRY FUNK IN MEMPHIS RING WAR

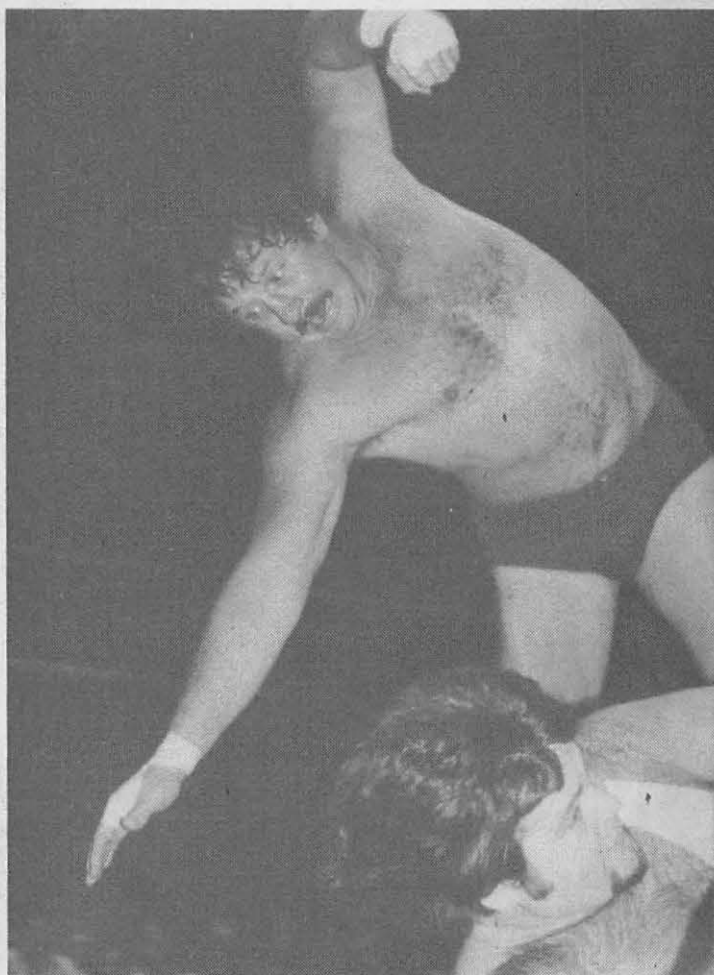
By Jim Cornette



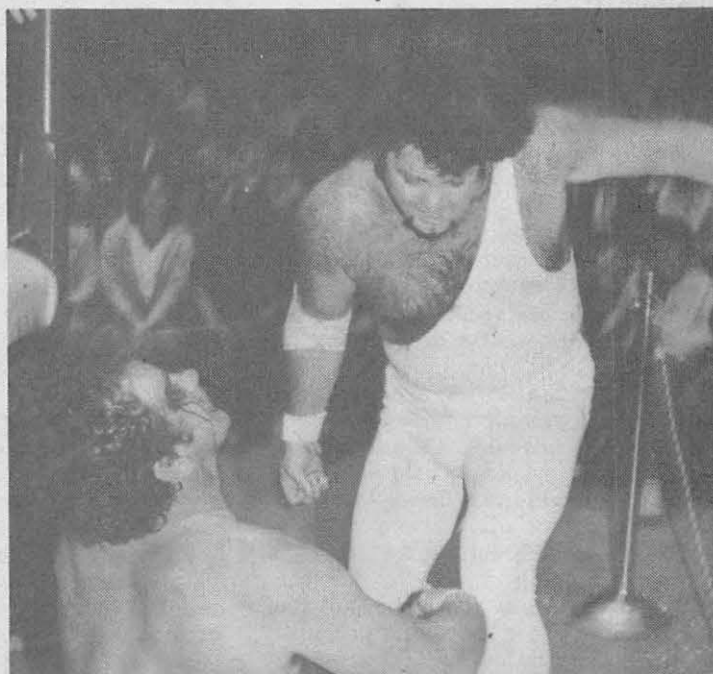
Terry Funk makes his way back to the ring after being flipped out by Jerry "The King" Lawler.



Jerry tries to take the fight out of his opponent with a leap off the ropes, the bout was one of the most grueling ever held in the Memphis Mid-South Coliseum.



Lawler rolls out of the way just in the nick of a time as the Former N.W.A. World's Champion tries for a knockout.



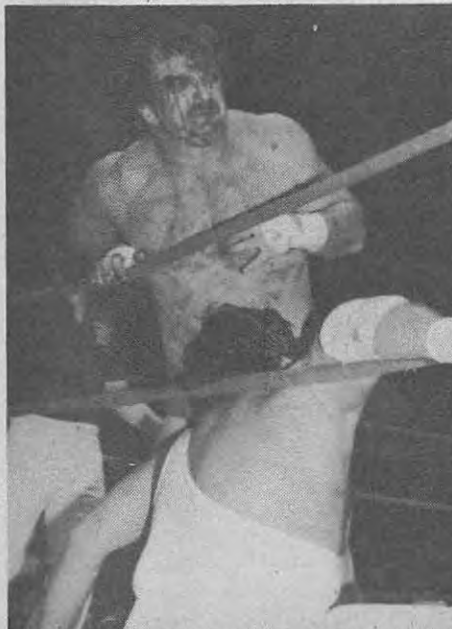
After cutting Funk's head open by running him into the bell, Lawler snaps his head back with a right.



Terry opened a big cut on Jerry by punching and biting Lawler while he had him cornered.



Funk continues his punishment of Lawler along the ropes.



The Texan grimaces from a headbutt to the stomach from "The King."

WRESTLING BOOKS FOR THE WRESTLING FAN

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by Bobby Lowe

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by George Gianakaris

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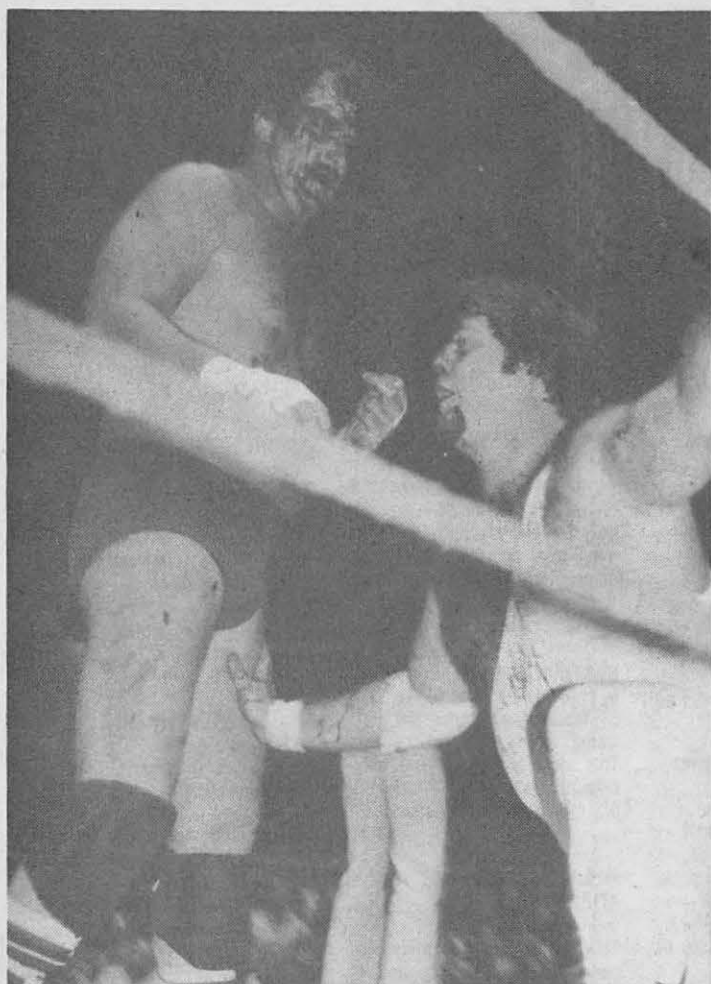
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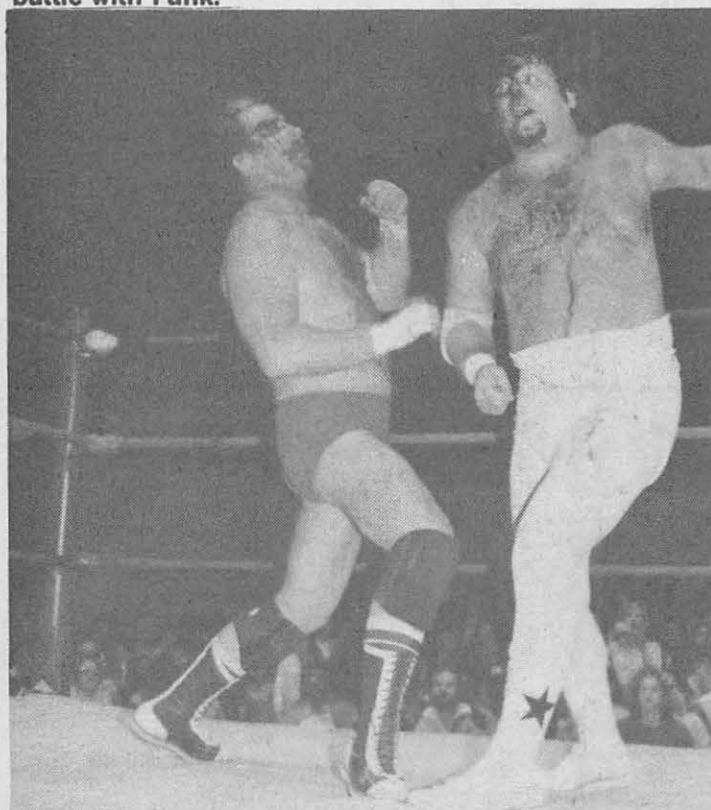
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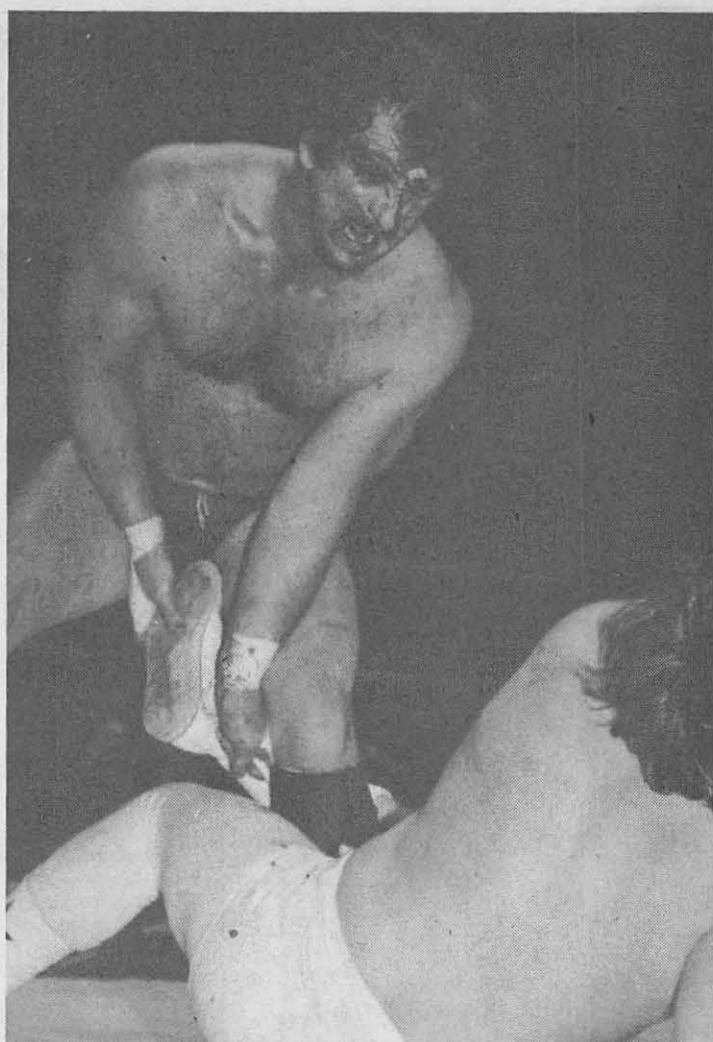
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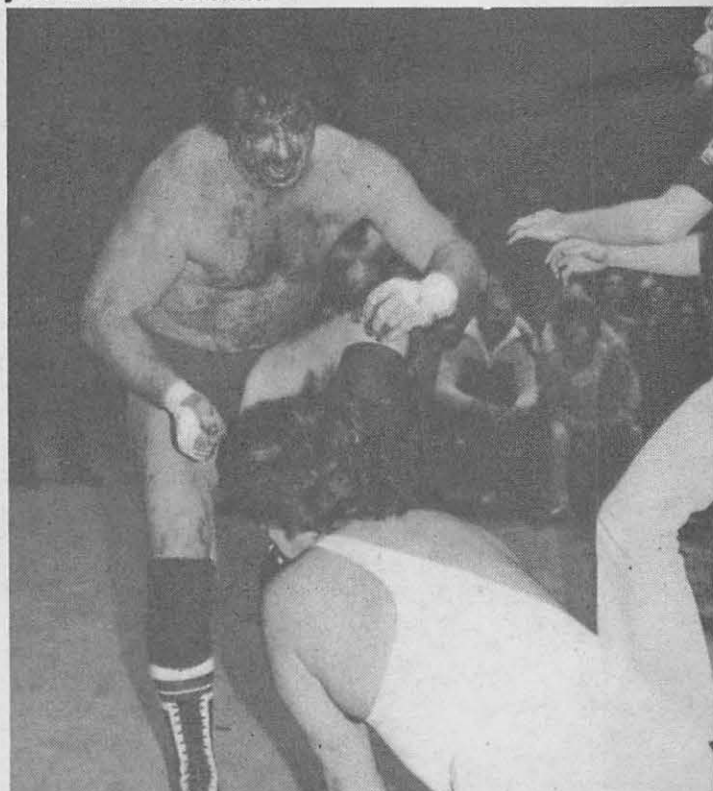
Lawler struggles to get back to his feet to continue the battle with Funk.



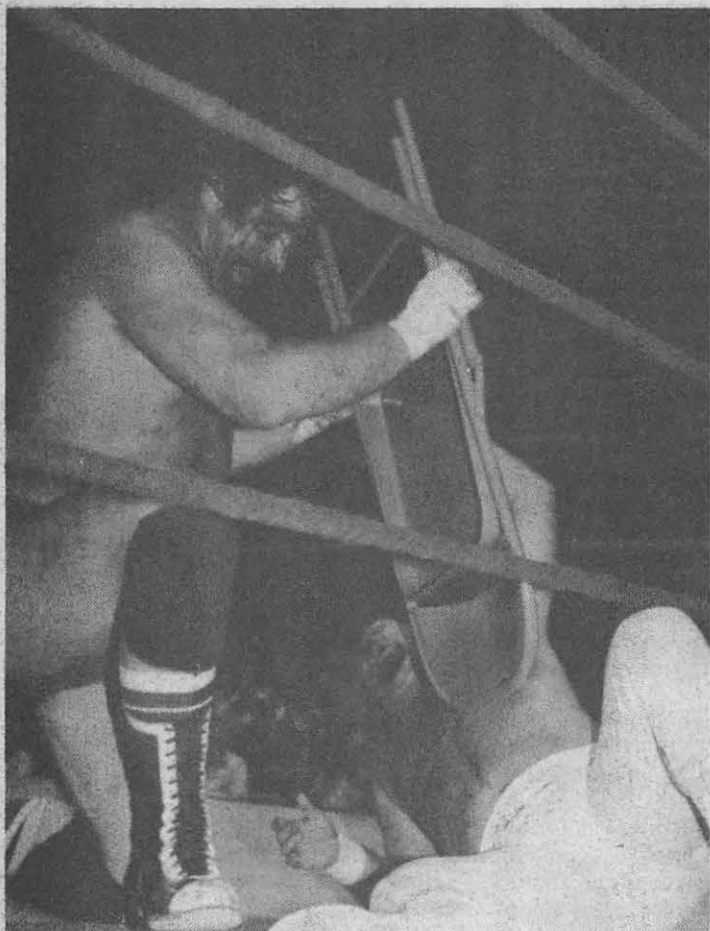
Lawler staggers Funk with a right cross that landed on target.



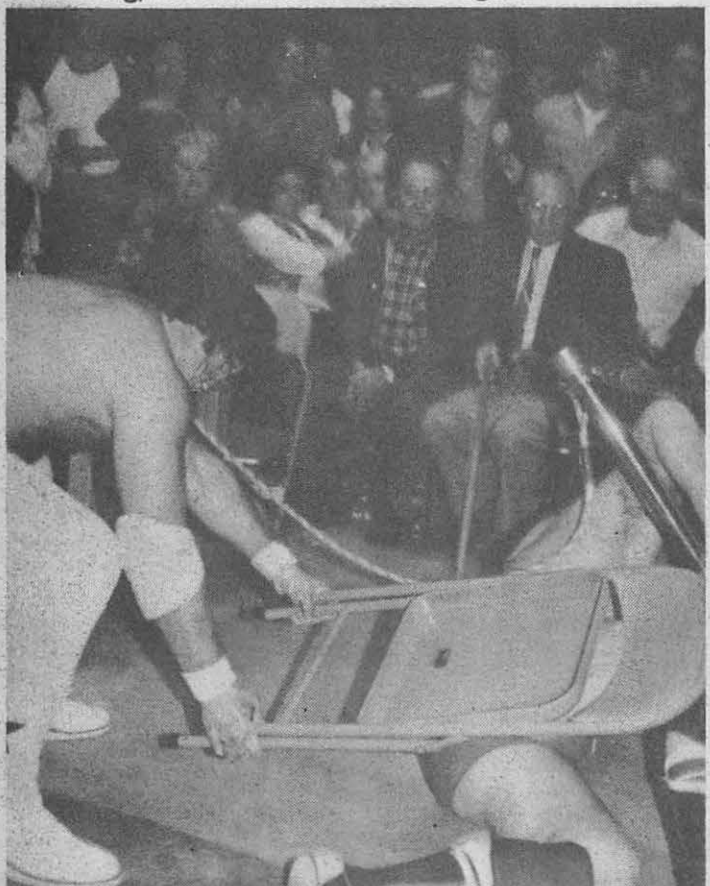
Terry clamped on his famous spinning toe hold, but Jerry just wouldn't submit.



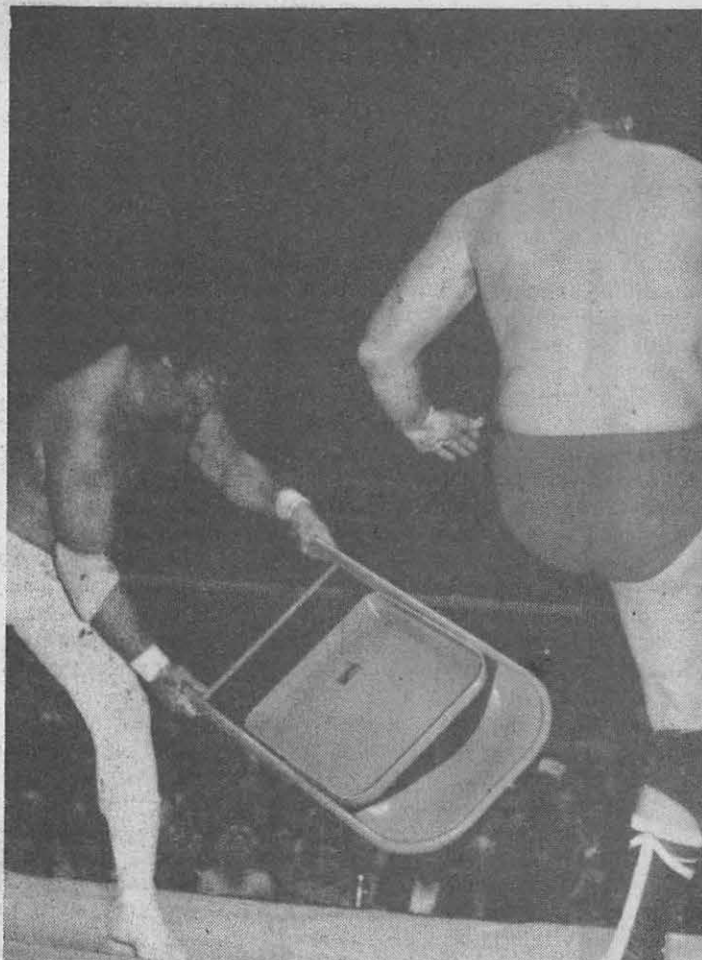
Funk stomps Lawler while Jerry tries to grab a weapon off of the ringside floor.



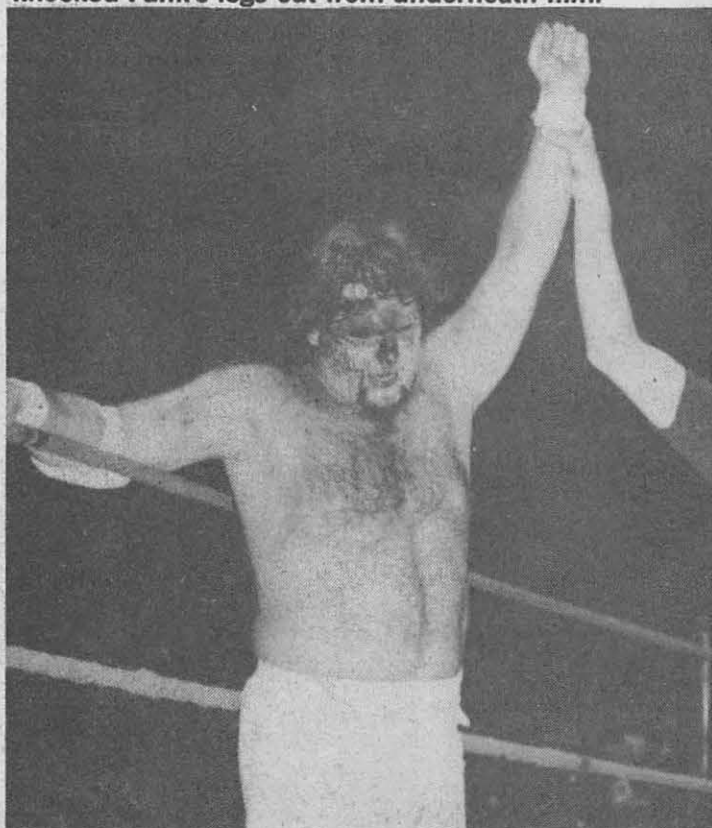
Funk knew that his opponent was recovering from a broken leg, here he tries to brake it again.



Lawler followed Funk out of the ring and beat him with the chair until he was unable to return to the ring.



"The King" turned the tables, took the chair away and knocked Funk's legs out from underneath him.



Jerry won on a countout, but not before absorbing some of the worst punishment any wrestler has ever received. ■

A LOOK AT ADRIAN STREET

By Evan R. Treharne

Who loves Adrian Street? The answer is simple. ADRIAN STREET. Welsh-born Adrian Street first saw the light of day at Brynmawr in the Rhymney Valley, and from an early age, took a great deal of interest in physical culture. In fact, he went to London when he was only 17 and quickly got into the wrestling business. Finding he wasn't making much headway as a clean wrestler, he soon decided to become the bad man of wrestling. So much so, he soon had the wrestling fans hating him and giving full vent to their feelings whenever he was in action. Maybe the fans were going to see him hoping he would receive a really good hiding, but Street kept winning and handing out more punishment than he ever received.

Deciding he would become the Danny LaRue of wrestling, Adrian wore lipstick and eye shadow, along with beautiful dressing gowns that cost the earth. Not satisfied with this, he would blow kisses to the crowd when being introduced in the ring. At the commencement of the initial round, he would prance around the ring to the stunned amazement of his opponent. Then make a sudden rush at his man, jump up to entangle his legs around his man in a body scissors, then clutching his opponents head he would give an almighty kiss to his lips. From then on the real rough wrestling would come into being. His physical culture life, plus weight training, give him all the strength that belied his soft and female appearance.

Once again he is back in Brynmawr as a farmer, as he is fond of the open air life and of animals, being very fond of horses and horse riding. Between times he still

puts in a great deal of wrestling and he is in great demand with the wrestling promoters for his services. When starting wrestling, he scaled around the 11st. mark (154 lb.), but today he is all of 13st. (182 lb.) This means Adrian Street is six pounds above the middleweight limit, at which he holds the present world crown and belt. Trimming down the extra pounds with hard weight training would be an easy matter, but it would make him all the harder and tougher too, for any title defense against any wrestler daring to try to take his title and silver belt from him in ring combat.

During his career Adrian has collected a broken nose on three occasions, several broken ribs, 15 stitches in one ear and the other cauliflowered, not to mention bruises everywhere possible. But never has his ego been dented.

Some years ago, Adrian Street was one half of the then famous 'WHITE ANGELS' tag team and went from success to success. Today he does a great deal of solo wrestling topping the bills all over Great Britain. He often takes part in tag matches, as it adds a little spice to the nights program and a little blood too at the same time.

Making music and LP's, he makes his fans happy, and now he plans a wrestling tour of Canada and the U.S.A. On the whole, the Americans love the big heavyweights most of all, but they also appreciate some of the smaller British wrestlers visiting the land of the dollar. At 5'6" and a mere 13st. (182 lb.) Adrian Street should be able to please the hard-bitten American fans. ■



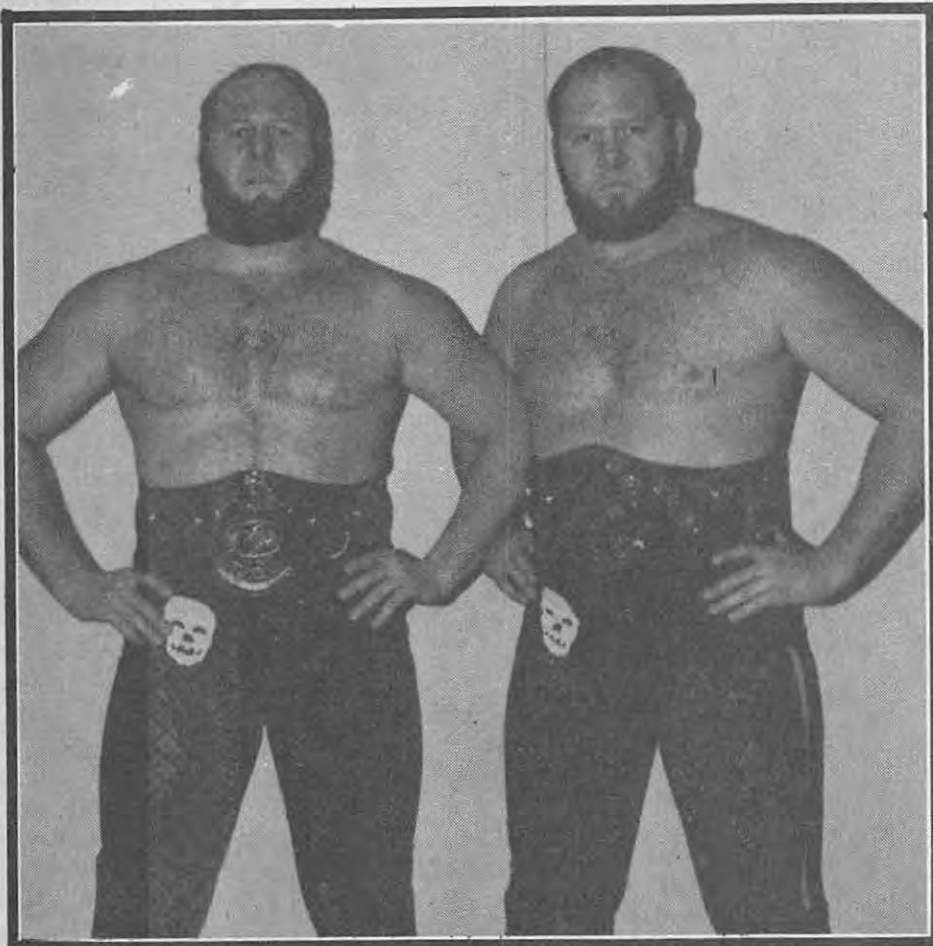
These two pictures show just a couple of the main colorful ring robes that Adrian Street wears, he the real fashion plate of wrestling in Great Britain.



Bobby Barnes and Adrian Street formed a tag team for many years known as The Hell's Angels.

AN INTERVIEW WITH PAT & MIKE KELLY

By Shawn Swagler



WM: How long have you been wrestling?

PK: Fifteen years.

WM: Who is the toughest team you have had to wrestle?

PK: Toughest has to be the Royal Kangaroos.

WM: Where were you born?

PK: Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

WM: What championships have you held?

MK: The Canadian tag-team championship and the Australian tag-team championship.

The North American and Pacific tag-team championships, and right now the Central states tag-team championship.

WM: What do you think of the team you defeated for the belts, Jerry Roberts and Bruce Reed?

PK: Very good team, very good team, the only problem is that they have not been together as long as we have. See, we have been together all our lives. That's the advantage we had over them.

WM: Where all have you wrestled?

PK: Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Korea, England and the United States.

WM: What was your favorite area to wrestle in?

PK: Australia.

WM: Did anyone help you in starting

your career?

PK: Yes, Chris and John Tolos, the golden Greeks from Hamilton, Ontario.

MK: Yea, they started us about 15 years ago in professional wrestling, before that we wrestled in high school, and a little bit in college. A little bit of Greco Roman style, for about three or four years. Then we got into pro wrestling when we turned 17 years old. Like we said we have been in the business now for 15 years and we have succeeded all over the world very well. We're the only identical true wrestling twins throughout the world. I mean identical like my brother and I are. Both being near the same weight within a couple of pounds. 6'2½ rugged, good bodies, real true athletes.

PK: Five hundred pound wrestling machine I might add.

WM: What are the best and worst things in wrestling?

PK: Best thing belts and money; worst thing pain.

MK: That's right.

WM: What are some of your hobbies?

PK: Cars, love cars, love to go skiing, I have a boat back home. I do a lot of skiing. I like to work. I like to run alot. You know sports and all that.

WM: What are some of your goals?

PK: Someday I wish to be a promoter. My brother wishes to be a promoter also.

WM: Where do you live?

PK: Right now we have our home in Kansas City.

WM: What do you think about traveling?

PK: Well, sure I like to travel, you have to travel in professional wrestling.

MK: You have to go first class all the way.

PK: If I didn't like it I wouldn't do it. I love the business. I sleep wrestling. I eat wrestling. It's my life. It's my brother's life.

WM: Does it bother you that there is no world tag-team title that is recognized all over the world?

PK: Yes, they should have a world tag-team title. We have wrestled Harley Race. I think they should give us another crack at Harley. Last time one of us wrestled him, it was brother Mike. He wasn't successful. Well, Harley's a great wrestler. I would like to get the opportunity to wrestle him again.

WM: Who do you think are the top wrestlers in the world today?

PK: They would be Karl Gotch, Lou Thez, Pat O'Connor, Bruno Sammartino, Verne Gagne, you could go on and on and on.

WM: What do you think of the fans?

PK: In this particular area, a little obnoxious.

MK: Rude, rude.

PK: We had a little thing last week where one of the fans stepped into the ring and we had to demolish him quickly. But besides that, they are not that bad. They're not as crazy as they are in Australia. They have a few beers and they are all fighters. But that's the things you have to put up with in professional wrestling.

WM: Have either of you ever been attacked by the fans?

PK: Yes, several times, many times, in Salt Lake a guy rammed me into a post. In San Diego some woman stuck me with a pin in the hip. You know those are the things you shouldn't have to put up with in professional wrestling.

WM: What injuries have you had in your career?

PK: In the ring, broken ribs, cartilages gone, elbows broken, cauliflower ears, ear drum busted, back, you know just minor things that just happen in professional wrestling, you lose your hair.

WM: Is there anything you want to say to the fans out there?

PK: No.

MK: No.

WM: Thank you very much for this interview.

PK: Thank you, you're quite welcome.

MK: You're welcome, it was a pleasure.

WRESTLING MAGAZINE 57

TOM JONES IS AIMING FOR THE TOP

By Randy Monte

When Tom Jones puts his 245 pound body into a wrestling ring, it is usually the opponent for the evening that ends up "biting the dust".

In fact, "Tom Terrific", as he has been called, seems to win as many matches as he enters these days. The last time that he actually lost a match is almost too far in the past to remember.

His manner in the ring is cool and confident. He enters the ring with the flurry of his red, white, and blue robe. He bounces up and down ever so slightly to test both the solidity of the ring and his own powerful leg muscles. He gives the "thumbs up" sign to the cheering throng that calls his name and wishes him well wherever he wrestles.

Then his eyes set on the opponent. From this moment on, nothing matters besides the match at hand.

His manner during an interview is just as cool and just as confident.

Whenever Tom is interviewed, he will direct selected comments at an upcoming opponent. He will concede the fact that the opponent is talented and capable competition, and Tom always ends an interview saying, "But when that bell rings, another one bites the dust."

It wasn't always that way for the talented wrestler. His life could come right out a rags-to-riches storybook.

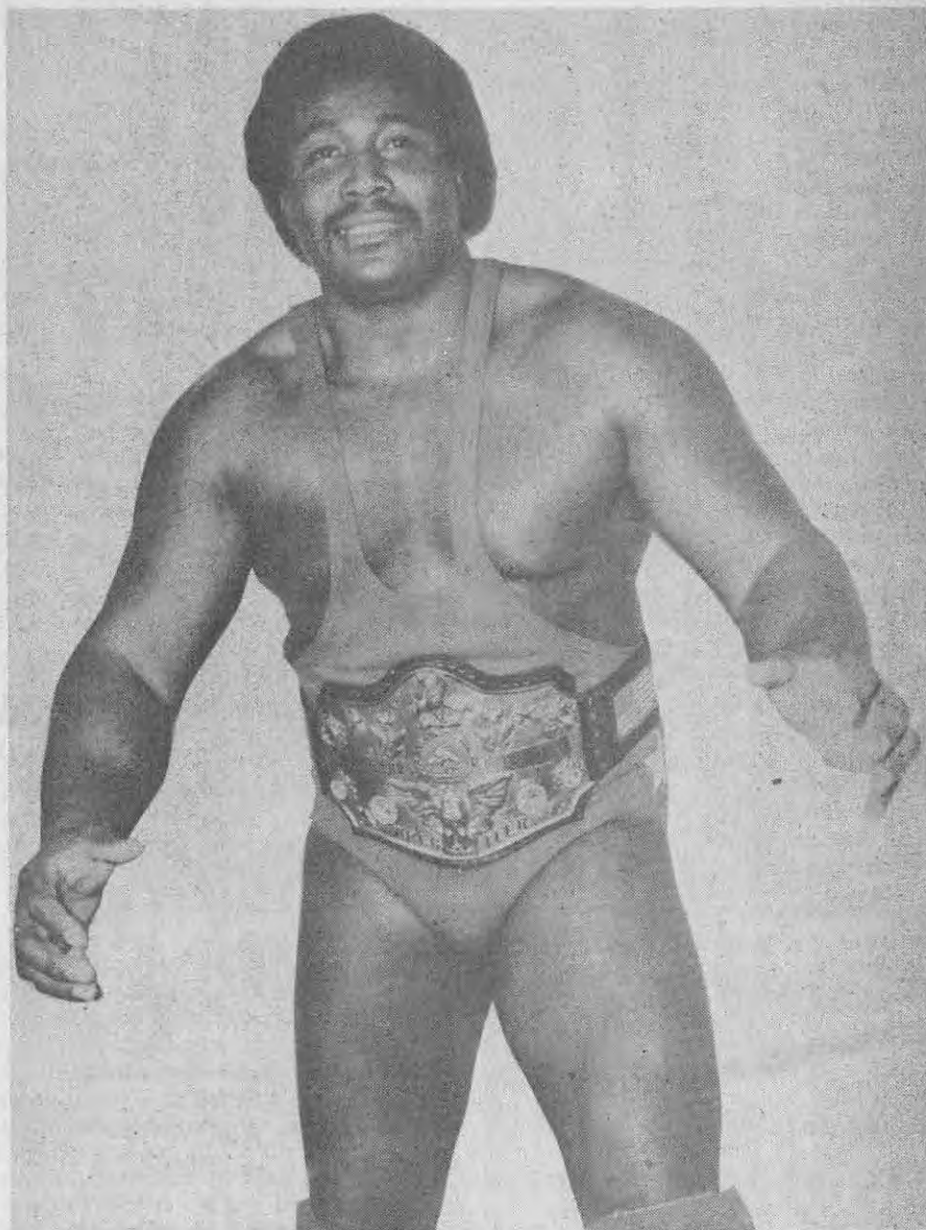
Born in Savannah, Georgia, the young Tom Jones was not as fine a physical specimen as he is today. Instead, he was the stereotype country boy and was raised by his grandmother through the early part of his life. Eventually, his mother became a factor in his life.

In school, he didn't wrestle. He had no real desire to get onto the mat as an amateur. His decision came after school, and it was an uphill battle for the underweight black youngster.

Well, my problem was when I first started wrestling." He says, "I was living in Indianapolis... and I only weighed 195 pounds. I gained a few pounds before I went to (wrestling) school, and it was 200 pounds which wasn't solid. (Note: The entrance requirement for the wrestling school was a minimum weight of 200 pounds.) So, by the time I was out of training, I was down to 190 pounds, and it took me...a good ten years to work out, lift weights and stuff to get my weight where I wanted it."

With a solid wrestling weight of 245 achieved, Tom has all of the ingredients needed to be a champion: Speed, knowledge, experience and plenty of muscle.

He also has the most devastating head butt in the wrestling world.



When Tom's head is smashed into a turnbuckle, he will usually turn to his opponent and shake a finger at him. The hard buckling is no match for that hard head.

In all of my years with the sport of wrestling, I have never seen man that could stun an opponent to the point of wooziness with one head butt the way that Tom Jones can.

His head butt is never a natural maneuver with any wrestler, and Tom learned it from the master of the head butt.

"I got it from a guy that had been wrestling a long time, the great Bobo Brazil....I used to travel with him a lot and he taught it to me."

Tom equates the head butt with a karate action. Many martial arts experts can break hard objects with their heads. It

seems to be a combination of mental preparation and getting your head into shape.

Tom's head is in shape, but he almost lost the use of it in a match with the great Mephisto.

"As you notice," he told me, "On one side of my head, I've had thirty five stitches, and from here (the middle of his brow) on up, it's numb, and there's no feeling. I got hit with a foreign object...an opponent just split my head wide open...I have a hard head, but it doesn't stand up to a piece of hard metal."

It would seem that Tom Jones, with only half of a head to butt with, can carry as much sting to an opponent as another wrestler using all of his facilities.

With the good half of his head, Tom has punished opponents all over the country and around the world. He has climbed into

rings in Canada, The Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and two fine tours of Japan.

The list of titles that he has held is most impressive. He has battled top talent wherever he has wrestled, and has risen to the top nearly everywhere.

Tom teamed with Porkchop Cash to win the Georgia tag-team titles. In Los Angeles he won the tag titles twice with two different partners (Armando Guererro and S.D. Jones). And was also the star of "Beat the Champ" as Los Angeles' television champion. He left L.A. to sweep onto the San Antonio wrestling scene in Texas, where he won the prestigious Southwest Championship.

From San Antonio, Tom returned to the area of the country where he started. The tri-state area of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Southern Missouri. He began his career there under the tutelage of the great Danny Hodge. Coming home, he quickly gunned through preliminary and semi-main event competition, eventually landing a title match with the dangerous Japanese Champion, Mr. Pogo.

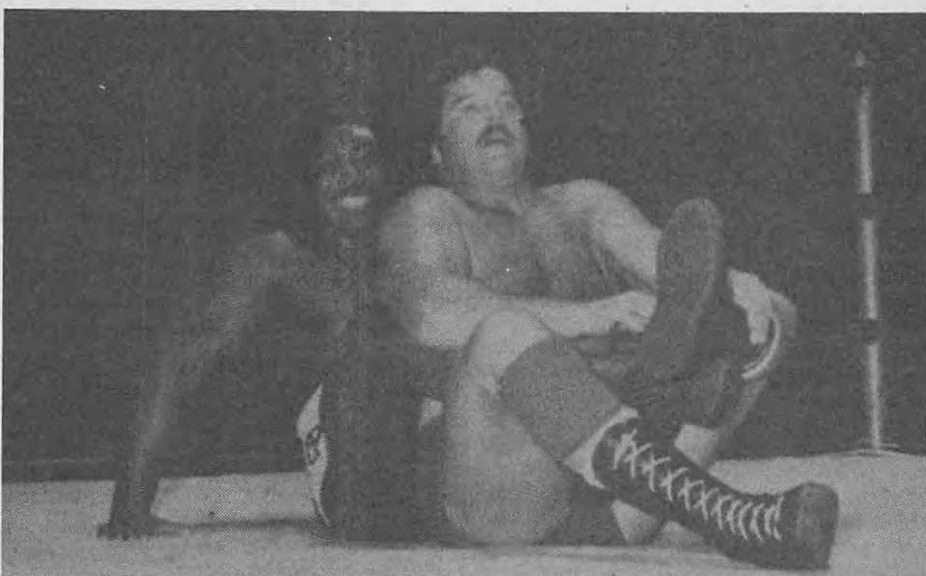
In Tulsa, Oklahoma, Tom defeated Mr. Pogo and became only the third man, and the first black man, to hold the Tri-state heavyweight championship.

And now he has set his eyes all the higher. He wants to be the first black man to win the World's heavyweight championship. He believes that in a good match, without any funny business by Harley Race, Tom could beat him.

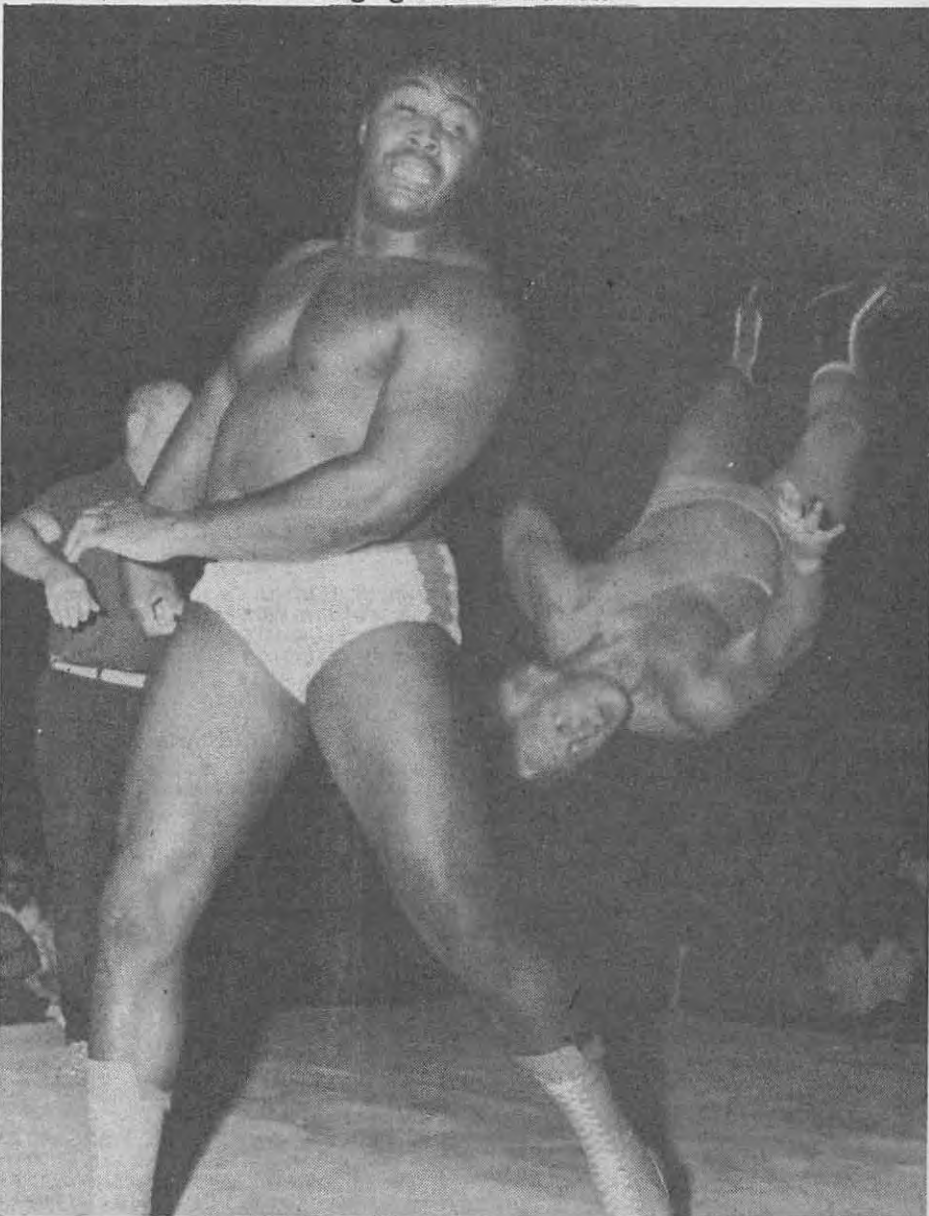
Given another year or two, Tom Jones should be universally regarded as a ranking contender for a world belt. ■



Early in his career Tom Jones often teamed with "Handsome" Jimmy Valiant.



Tom appeared on the very first card presented in the Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana, wrestling against Pat Barrett.



Jones sends Roger Kirby crashing to the canvas with a back bodydrop.

T.V. WRESTLING GUIDE

In this section we attempt to list every television wrestling program in the United States and Canada. Although we have a fairly complete listing, we do have a few gaps and as television schedules change constantly it is impossible for us to be certain that this listing is complete and accurate. We might add that although we list these programs by states, some are seen over very large areas through cable television. In fact, the Madison Square Garden monthly wrestling card is seen nationwide on a cable network and the Atlanta WTBS-17 program is also seen on cable in virtually every state in the country. The Madison Square Garden program is not listed here because it is a monthly special rather than a weekly program. However, if there are any wrestling shows that we have failed to list, or listed incorrectly, we request that you send us the correct information so that we can update this schedule in our next issue. Send all television program information to: TV Editor, WRESTLING MAGAZINE, BOX 3325, MAN-KATO, MINNESOTA 56001

ALABAMA

5-WKRG, MOBILE Sat., 12:00 P.M.
18-WDHN, DOTHAN Sat., 12:30 P.M.
48-WYUR, HUNTSVILLE Sat., 12:30 P.M.
15-WOWL, FLORENCE Sat., 12:00 P.M.
42-WBMG, BIRMINGHAM Sat., 11:00 A.M.
4-WTVY, DOTHAN Sun., 4:30 A.M.
20-WCOV, MONTGOMERY Sat., 12:30 P.M.

ARIZONA

33-KSIN, PHOENIX Sat. 3:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS

4-KARK, LITTLE ROCK Sat. 12:00 P.M.
40-KFPW, FORT SMITH Sun., 1:30 A.M.
40-KFPW, FORT SMITH Sun., 12:30 P.M.
29-KTVP, FAYETTEVILLE Sun., 1:30 A.M.
29-KTVP, FAYETTEVILLE Sun., 12:30 P.M.

CALIFORNIA

31-KMUV, SACRAMENTO Sat., 6:00 P.M.
31-KMUV, SACRAMENTO Thur. 8:30 P.M.
19-KLOC, MODESTO Sat., 10:30 P.M.
14-KDTV, SAN FRANCISCO Sat., 11:00 A.M.
20-KTZO, SAN FRANCISCO Sat., 11:00 A.M.
20-KTZO, SAN FRANCISCO Sun., 11:00 A.M.
21-KFTV, HANFORD Sat., 11:30 A.M.
36-KGSC, SAN JOSE Sat. 4:00 P.M.
34-KMEX, LOS ANGELES Sat. 11:00 A.M.

COLORADO

2-KWGN, DENVER Sun., 11:00 A.M.
5-KOAA, PUEBLO Sat., 4:00 P.M.

CONNECTICUT

20-WATR, WATERBURY Mon., 7:00 P.M.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

20-WDC, WASHINGTON Sat., 11:00 A.M.

FLORIDA

6-WCIX, MIAMI Sat., 12:00 P.M.
20-WBBH, FORT MYERS Sat., 1:00 P.M.
44-WTOG, ST. PETERSBURG Sat., 7:00 P.M.
44-WTOG, ST. PETERSBURG Sun., 7:00 P.M.
40-WXLT, SARASOTA Sun., 12:00 P.M.
9-WFTV, ORLANDO Sun., 1:00 P.M.
12-WTLV, JACKSONVILLE Sat., 1:00 P.M.

17-WJKS, JACKSONVILLE Sun., 5:00 P.M.
27-WECA, TALLAHASSEE Sun., 5:00 P.M.
34-WTVX, FT. PIERCE Sun., 1:15 A.M.
20-WCJB, GAINESVILLE Mon., 12:00 A.M.

GEORGIA

17-WTBS, ATLANTA Sat., 6:00 P.M.
17-WTBS, ATLANTA Sun., 6:00 P.M.
36-WATL, ATLANTA Sat., 4:00 P.M.
36-WATL, ATLANTA Fri., 10:00 P.M.
41-WCWB, MACON Sat., 1:00 P.M.
12-WRDW, AUGUSTA Sat., 1:00 P.M.
26-WATU, AUGUSTA Sat., 7:00 P.M.
11-WTOC, SAVANNAH Sat., 11:00 P.M.
9-WRBL, COLUMBUS Sat., 4:00 P.M.
38-WYEA, COLUMBUS Sat., 7:00 P.M.

ILLINOIS

44-WSNS, CHICAGO Sun., 11:30 A.M.
26-WCIU, CHICAGO Sat., 11:00 A.M.
26-WCIU, CHICAGO Mon., 8:00 P.M.
13-WREX, ROCKFORD Sun., 11:00 A.M.
25-WEEK, PEORIA Sat., 12:30 P.M.
55-WBHW, SPRINGFIELD Sat., 5:00 P.M.
55-WBHW, SPRINGFIELD Sun., 6:00 P.M.
3-WSIL, HARRISBURG Fri., 11:40 P.M.

INDIANA

55-WFFT, FT. WAYNE Sat., 1:00 P.M.
4-WTTV, INDIANAPOLIS Sat., 11:00 A.M.
4-WTTV, INDIANAPOLIS Sat., 12:30 A.M.
7-WTVW, EVANSVILLE Sun., 2:30 P.M.

IOWA

4-KTIV, SIOUX CITY Sun., 10:30 P.M.
13-WHO, DES MOINES Sat., 12:00 P.M.

KANSAS

2-KCKT, GREAT BEND Sun., 1:00 A.M.
3-KARD, WICHITA Sun., 1:00 A.M.
11-KGLD, GARDEN CITY Sun., 1:00 A.M.
27-KYSB, TOPEKA Sun., 10:00 A.M.

KENTUCKY

57-WKYH, HAZARD Sat., 12:00 P.M.
13-WBKO, BOWLING GREEN Sat., 10:45 P.M.
3-WAVE, LOUISVILLE Sat., 12:00 P.M.
18-WLEX, LEXINGTON Sat., 12:00 P.M.
41-WDRB, LOUISVILLE Sat., 11:30 A.M.
36-WTVQ, LEXINGTON Sat., 11:30 P.M.

LOUISIANA

10-KFLY, LAFAYETTE Sat., 11:00 A.M.
26-WGNO, NEW ORLEANS Sat., 6:00 P.M.
26-WGNO, NEW ORLEANS Sat., 11:00 P.M.
5-KALB, ALEXANDRIA Sun., 9:00 A.M.
10-KTVE, MONROE Sun., 4:00 P.M.
3-KTBS-SHREVEPORT Sun., 4:00 P.M.
7-KPLC, LAKE CHARLES Sun., 2:00 P.M.
9-WAFB, BATON ROUGE Sat., 2:00 P.M.

MAINE

13-WGAN, PORTLAND Sat., 2:00 P.M.
5-WABI, BANGOR Sat., 11:15 P.M.

MARYLAND

45-WBFF, BALTIMORE Sat., 4:00 P.M.

MASSACHUSETTS

22-WWLP, SPRINGFIELD Sat., 1:00 P.M.
27-WSMW, WORCESTER Sat., 12:00 P.M.
56-WLVI, BOSTON Sat., 11:00 A.M.
68-WQTV, BOSTON Sun., 11:00 A.M.

MICHIGAN

62-WGPR, DETROIT Sat., 4:30 P.M.
62-WGPR, DETROIT Sun., 1:00 P.M.

MINNESOTA

9-KMSP, MINNEAPOLIS Sun., 11:00 A.M.
10-WDIO, DULUTH Sun., 12:00 P.M.
6-KAAL, AUSTIN Sun., 11:00 P.M.

MISSISSIPPI

12-JACKSON Sat., 1:00 P.M.
13-WLOX, BILOXI Sun., 4:00 P.M.
9-WTVA, TUPELO Sat., 12:00 P.M.
6-WABG, GREENWOOD Sat., 12:30 P.M.

MISSOURI

41-KBMA, KANSAS CITY Sun., 9:00 A.M.
41-KBMA, KANSAS CITY Mon., 12:00 A.M.
11-KPLR, ST. LOUIS Sun., 7:30 A.M.
11-KPLR, ST. LOUIS Sun., 11:00 A.M.
17-KCBJ, COLUMBIA Sun., 12:15 A.M.

MONTANA

12-KTCM, HELENA Mon., 6:00 P.M.

NEBRASKA

7-KETV, OMAHA Fri. 12:10 A.M.
7-KETV, OMAHA Sat. 12:30 A.M.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

9-WMUR, MANCHESTER Sun., 1:00 P.M.

NEW JERSEY

41-WXTV, PATTERSON Sat., 6:00 A.M.
41-WXTV, PATTERSON Sat., 5:30 P.M.
41-WXTV, PATTERSON Sun., 3:00 A.M.
47-WNJU, NEWARK Fri., 11:00 P.M.
47-WNJU, NEWARK Sat., 4:00 P.M.

NEW MEXICO

7-KOAT, ALBUQUERQUE Sun., 10:00 A.M.
12-KMCC, CLOVIS Sun., 3:00 P.M.
12-KIVA, FARMINGTON Sun., 12:30 A.M.
23-KMXN, ALBUQUERQUE Sat., 10:00 P.M.

NEW YORK

9-WOR, NEW YORK CITY Sat., 12:00 A.M.
34-WMGC, BINGHAMTON Sun., 5:00 P.M.
4-WIVB, BUFFALO Sat., 3:00 P.M.
6-WRGB, SCHENECTADY Sun., 11:00 A.M.
67-WSNL, SMITHTOWN Sat., 4:00 P.M.
67-WSNL, SMITHTOWN Sun., 4:00 P.M.
20-WVTR, UTICA Sun., 1:00 P.M.
31-WUHF, ROCHESTER Sun., 7:00 P.M.

NORTH CAROLINA

36-WRET, CHARLOTTE Sat., 1:00 P.M.
13-WLOS, ASHVILLE Sat., 11:30 P.M.
14-WHXY, HICKORY Sat., 11:00 P.M.
14-WHXY, HICKORY Sat., 11:30 A.M.
8-WGHP, HIGH POINT Fri., 11:30 P.M.
12-WXII, WINSTON-SALEM Sat., 1:00 P.M.
7-WITN, WASHINGTON Sat., 5:00 P.M.
5-WRAL, RALEIGH Sat., 11:30 P.M.
12-WCTI, NEW BERNE Sat., 7:00 P.M.
12-WCTI, NEW BERNE Sat., 12:30 A.M.

OHIO

9-WTOV, STUBENVILLE Sat., 4:00 P.M.
23-WAKR, AKRON Sat., 12:30 A.M.
22-WKEF, DAYTON Saturday, 12:00 P.M.
64-WBTI, CINCINNATI Saturday, 11:00 A.M.

OKLAHOMA

2-KTEW, TULSA Sat., 12:00 P.M.
34-KGMC, OKLAHOMA CITY Thur., 11:30 P.M.

OREGON

12-KPTV, PORTLAND Sat., 8:30 P.M.

PENNSYLVANIA

22-WPTT, PITTSBURGH Sat., 5:00 P.M.
29-WTAF, PHILADELPHIA Sat., 11:00 A.M.
17-WPHL, PHILADELPHIA Sat., 12:00 P.M.
19-WJNL, JOHNSTOWN Sat., 6:00 P.M.

RHODE ISLAND

12-WPRI, PROVIDENCE Sat., 1:30 P.M.

SOUTH CAROLINA

4-WFBC, GREENVILLE Sat., 1:00 P.M.
2-WCBD, CHARLESTON Sat., 11:15 P.M.
4-WCIV, CHARLESTON Sat., 1:00 P.M.
19-WLTX, COLUMBIA Sat., 12:30 P.M.
25-WOLO, COLUMBIA Sat., 11:45 P.M.
13-WBTW, FLORENCE Sat., 3:30 P.M.

TENNESSEE

3-WRCB, CHATTANOOGA Sat., 11:00 A.M.
12-CHATTANOOGA Sat., 12:00 P.M.
12-WDEF, CHATTANOOGA Sat., 12:00 P.M.
17-WZTV, NASHVILLE Sat., 5:00 P.M.
5-WTVF, NASHVILLE Sat., 2:00 P.M.
24-WPPY, MEMPHIS Sat., 9:00 P.M.
10-WBIR, KNOXVILLE Sat., 2:00 P.M.
11-WJHL, JOHNSON CITY Sat., 12:00 P.M.
55-WCPT, CROSSVILLE Sat., 7:00 P.M.
5-WMC, MEMPHIS Sat., 11:00 A.M.
7-WBBJ, JACKSON Sat., 10:30 P.M.
26-WTVK, KNOXVILLE Sat., 12:30 P.M.
55-WCPT, CROSSVILLE Sun., 4:00 P.M.
55-WCPT, CROSSVILLE Mon., 8:00 P.M.
24-WPTV, MEMPHIS Sat., 10:00 A.M.
61-WRIP, CHATTANOOGA Sat., 1:30 P.M.

TEXAS

39-KHTV, HOUSTON Sat., 10:30 P.M.
39-KHTV, HOUSTON Sun., 11:00 P.M.
28-KORO, CORPUS CHRISTI Sat., 5:00 P.M.
41-KWEX, SAN ANTONIO Sat., 5:00 P.M.
4-KMOL, SAN ANTONIO Sat., 12:00 A.M.
11-KTVT, FORT WORTH Sat., 10:00 P.M.
24-KVUE, AUSTIN Sat., 12:30 P.M.
4-KDBC, EL PASO Sun., 10:30 P.M.
10-KFDA, AMARILLO Sat., 6:00 P.M.
28-KAMC, LUBBOCK Sun., 4:00 P.M.
2-KMID, MIDLAND Sat., 11:00 P.M.

VERMONT

22-WEZF, BURLINGTON Sat., 11:15 P.M.

VIRGINIA

5-WCYB, BRISTOL Sat., 1:00 P.M.
10-WAVY, NORFOLK Sat., 6:30 P.M.
10-WAVY, NORFOLK Sun., 2:00 A.M.
6-WTVR, RICHMOND Sun., 12:00 A.M.
29-WVIR, CHARLOTTESVILLE Sat., 7:00 P.M.
10-WSLS, ROANOKE Sat., 1:00 P.M.
13-WSET, LYNCHBURG Sat., 11:15 P.M.

WASHINGTON

13-KCPQ, TACOMA Sat., 11:00 P.M.

WEST VIRGINIA

4-WOAY, OAK HILL Sun., 3:00 P.M.

WISCONSIN

24-WGVC, MILWAUKEE Sat., 6:00 P.M.
24-WGVC, MILWAUKEE Sun., 11:00 A.M.
13-WEAU, EAU CLAIRE Sun., 11:30 P.M.
11-WLUK, GREEN BAY Sat., 10:30 P.M.

ALBERTA

7-CFAC, LETHBRIDGE Sat., 3:00 P.M.
2-CFAE, CALGARY Sat., 3:30 P.M.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

6-CHEK, VICTORIA Sat., 8:30 A.M.
8-BCTV, VANCOUVER Sat., 3:00 P.M.
21-CKVU, VANCOUVER Sat., 2:30 P.M.

MANITOBA

5-CKY, WINNIPEG Sat., 5:00 P.M.
12-CKND, WINNIPEG Sat., 10:00 P.M.
12-CKND, WINNIPEG Sat., 1:00 P.M.

ONTARIO

11-CHCH, HAMILTON Sat., 1:00 P.M.
79-CITY, TORONTO Sat., 1:30 P.M.
3-CKUR, BARRIE Sat., 2:00 P.M.
22-CLOB, TORONTO Sat., 12:00 P.M.
9-CBET, WINDSOR Sat., 12:30 P.M.
42-CKCO, KITCHENER Sat., 2:00 P.M.

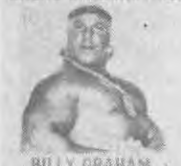
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FAN CLUB NEWS

BY TOM BURKE

Welcome to another look at the world of fan clubs through this column!

The time is drawing near for the 14th annual Wrestling Fans International Association Convention being held in Houston, Texas at the Downtown Holiday Inn on July 22nd to the 25th. This is the first time that the organization has been in Houston and from all reports that I have obtained it will be a great success. Promoter Paul Boesch is hosting the convention and will have several surprises for conventioners. More information on the 14th annual convention may be obtained by writing to the WFIA at PO Box 155, Cliff, New Mexico 88028. Don't forget that stamped self addressed envelope when you write to WFIA headquarters. Fan clubs wanting to be in the judging for fan club of the year are invited to send their bulletins to the above address. If you desire to take out an ad in the Convention program contact the above address for complete information. I hope to meet many of you great fans in Houston ... so come on down!

Ric Flair has a fan club under the direction of Donna Crawford, PO Box 363, Pleasant Valley, Va. 22848. This is a new club which has been in operation for about four months now. Miss Crawford sent me a signed permission slip from Nature Boy. The first issue of the club's bulletin, "Hot Stuff" was five pages consisting of an open letter to members from Ric, a letter from the president, the rest of the three pages were filled with wrestling results from the Mid Atlantic area. Miss Crawford has requested assistance from fans of Ric to pass on information and results of the former US Champion. The dues are \$5.00 a year which includes six bulletins a year, an autographed photo of Ric Flair. This is a new club with a very top notch star in the honorary position and I am sure that Flair fans will contact Donna and get things rolling.

The Wrestling Reporter is the name of the publication put out by John Veneziano of 705 Tenth St., Riverton, NJ 08077. John has been publishing his publication for five years now and continues to give his readers a good clear cut look at the mat sport from around the country. Eight pages of wrestling commentary, interviews by Arizona writer Dale Pierce, profiles on stars in the WWF were featured in the most recent bulletin which sells for the low fee of 60 cents plus a stamped self addressed envelope.

A new publication entitled Wrestling Diversified comes from Mike Richardson, 509 East Battell St., Mishawaka, Indiana

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46544. The first edition of this publication contained a total of eleven pages plus the cover. The printing quality is fair to good depending what page you're reading. However, the text of the bulletin is very good. I really enjoyed the cover feature of Harley Race. The article was very well done and look forward to the second part in issue number 2. Photos, clips, a wrestling almanac, a look at wrestling in various parts of the country were also presented in the debut issue. The fee per issue is 75 cents plus a stamped self addressed envelope or four issues for \$3.00.

I recently heard from an old friend named Mick Karch, president of the Nick Bockwinkle Fan Club. I enjoyed the recent bulletin Mick sent me celebrating the club's tenth year of operation. It was the first time in about three years that I heard from Mick and his style of reporting has not changed one bit. That I am pleased about since Mick has a very unique style, sometimes on the border of a bit too much, however, like his honorary, Mick is nobody's man. In reading over the bulletin, "Lean-Mean Machine" I found many fond memories along with many new items of interest. I did not see anywhere in the bulletin if Mick published monthly or what his schedule is. You can contact Mick at: 4016 S. Utica St., St. Louis Pk., Mn. 55416.

Georgia Wrestling Enquirer, Fred Adams, editor, 1273 Wiley Bridge Road, Woodstock, Ga. 30188. The most recent bulletin that was sent to me contained a total of eleven pages that consisted of some very good photos on the cover and in the bulletin. An article on the hottest tag team combination in the world today, The Fabulous Freebirds, Profile on the Mongolian Stomper, results, news and more. I enjoyed the feature on the Freebirds which was very well done. Three issues of the Georgia Wrestling Enquirer are \$3.50.

Walter Kupiec of 146 N. Day St., Orange, NJ 07050 has put out a new bulletin entitled



Lady wrestler Donna Day poses with Tom Burke, author of this column.

WWF News and Views. The first issue that was sent to me was typed on legal size paper, five sheets, both sides were typed. The contents of the bulletin was very good. I really enjoyed the editor's corner and other articles. I think that you will find this publication worth the 65 cents plus a stamped self addressed envelope.

AWA Wrestling, Karen Beckman, president, 2924 North 44 St., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53210 continues to put out a very news filled publication with results and profiles on stars of the AWA. Cost is only \$3.00 a year for a very informative publication. I think you will enjoy this great journal.

World Wide Wrestling is the name of the monthly bulletin put out by Phillippe Zimmerman, 17 Independence Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816. Cost is 65 cents plus stamped self addressed envelope. Photostatted copies of interesting wrestling, news, interviews, results, circuit reports and more make up the monthly bulletin. A recent issue contained a listing of champions, a full page of over 85 various titleholders and championships. In purchasing a copy of WWW you get your money's worth. I think that you will be satisfied with the bulletin. Drop Phillippe an order and tell him that you read about it in this column.

Ric Sullivan of Rt. 5, Box 76, Forest City, NC 28043 has issued a new bulletin entitled, "Mid Atlantic Wrestling". The first issue contained a total of four pages of photostatted sheets. Results, editorial, a review of mat action in the Mid Atlantic area, ratings and an article entitled Battle for the Gold, a story of Roddy Piper vs Ric Flair. Cost per issue is 75 cents plus a stamped self addressed envelope. Rick told me that future issues will improve in both printing and articles.

Marcial Bovee is the top manager of independent wrestlers in Arizona. He has a fan club under the direction of Dale Pierce, PO Box 23241, Phoenix, Arizona 85063. Complete details are not known. Send a stamped self addressed envelope to Dale.

Mark June and Mark Humpheries both work together in putting out a bulletin entitled, National Wrestling. Latest bulletin contained fourteen pages of photostatted sheets of good quality. I found this second edition of the NW to be a very big improvement over the debut issue that was sent to me awhile back. This second issue contained a calendar of up coming dates for major wrestling venues around the country. Newspaper clips, results, Spotlight on Terry Funk and more were featured in this bi-monthly publication. Cost is 65 cents per issue. The address is : 1041 NE 8th Ter., Pompano Bch., Fla. 33062.

Mike O'Hara, PO Box 651, Garcia Station, New York, New York 10028 is a busy guy with being the president of the Hulk Hogan and Bulldog Brower Fan Club. Mike is also the editor of Combat Sport

Monthly, a very good newsletter that gives you a real insight into the sport and the first time ever that I can recall in a Wrestling Forum so readers can exchange views on their favorite sport. Mike makes it interesting by posing questions and comments that you would not find in an average wrestling magazine. Combat Sports Monthly runs results from around the world. A copy is only \$1.00. Send for a copy. I am sure that you will enjoy reading CSPM.

Leonard Helman, Jr., 1923 Wayne Rd., Chambersburg, Pa. 17201 has put out a publication entitled "WWF Results 1980". This ten page bulletin carries mat results and writeups on cards from Baltimore, Maryland and Harrisburg, Pa. Only \$1.00 and two first class stamps. I enjoyed the bulletin and hope to see it next year. Good luck Leonard.

World-American Wrestling Results is published by Jim Burgett, 301 South Highland, Tupelo, Ms. 38801. Jim's headline on his monthly bulletin states, "You are about to read about the world's most exciting Pro Sport". That headline sums up everything about this publication. Jim has improved this bulletin quite a bit since he first started it over a year and a half ago. A recent bulletin contained sixteen pages of results, an excellent interview with former NWA world champion, Lou Thesz, Mat Notes and more. For only 60 cents an issue plus a stamped self addressed envelope it is a good buy.

All Star Championship Wrestling edited by Brad Harrison has improved since I wrote this column last time. Photostated, consisting of sixteen pages of wrestling ratings, circuit news and gossip, results, and action shots of a 6 man tag team match. Cost is 40 cents per issue. Order from: Brad Harrison, 1140 Rosewell Pl., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2G 1V7. If the editor would find a new form of printing his publication, the bulletin could be one of the best around.

In the past I have always given a gold star to the bulletin Wrestling Time, issued by Paul Heyman, 6 Azalea, Ct., Scarsdale, NY 10583. However, the past few issues that I have received have brought doubts to my mind. The fact that Editor Heyman has articles written by various wrestlers is questionable. I spoke to one of the wrestlers that had a by-line in Wrestling Times and he was unaware of the publication and editor. I sincerely believe that Editor Heyman should stick to reporting the wrestling news, and leave the world of make believe to the publishers of comic books.

Captain Lenny's Wrestling Journal has a lot to be desired for the asking price of \$5.00 an issue. The Captain is a nice guy and tries his best in putting out his monthly bulletin, but the asking price of \$5.00 is too much. You can secure a subscription to a worth while publication for that price. The fee of 50 cents is just about what the Captain's Journal is worth and that may

be over priced at times too. The address is PO Box 78, 115 Essex St., New York City, NY 10002.

Wrestling '81 is the name of the publication that is put out by Joe Shedlock, PO Box 607, Greensburg, Pa. 15601. This award winning publication is a treat to wrestling fans that like to stay in the know of the mat sport. \$2.00 per issue is worth it if you're really into pro wrestling. Interviews are also included in the publication at various times a year. The bulletin is published twice a month.

Superstar Wrestling Newsletter is a newsletter dealing with the mat sport plus an update on the board game, Superstar Wrestling. A single issue is \$1.00 plus a first class stamp. You can order from 18070 Strasburg, Detroit, Mich. 48205. Drop a line to Superstar Wrestling and ask about their board game.

Wrestling, Ring Side News is the new name for one of my favorite bulletins, Oldies But Goodies. Editor David L. Mulkey, Sr., 4500 Cherry Lane, Indianapolis, Ind. 46208. This bulletin features a little bit of the old and the new. David puts a lot of hard work in this publication and it can be seen from the front cover to the back page. The nostalgia clips and articles that appear in the bulletin along with the up to date information is well worth the \$2.50 for the monthly bulletin. I don't think my personal wrestling library would be the same without this super bulletin.

From England comes a first class publication called, The Wrestling Scene, published by Russell Plummer. Professionally printed with posed and action photos of wrestling stars from the major league of professional wrestling in the United Kingdom, Joint Promotions. This fanzine is a must for the fans that like to stay on top of the international scene of the mat world. Each issue contains reports with photos of mat action in Japan, Germany, South Africa and from North America along with features on the mat action in England. I consider this publication to be the best around. You can get a subscription for a year by sending Russell Plummer \$6.00. The address is as follows: 39 Ellwood Ave., Stanground, Peterborough, PE2, 8XL, England. I am sure that once you get your first issue of The Wrestling Scene that you will be satisfied with it. So get on the bandwagon and subscribe to this top notch fanzine.

I would like to mention to any fan that takes the time to order from any of the fan clubs or services listed above to be sure to include a stamped self addressed envelope. Most of these clubs are run on a shoe string budget and it is very important that you assist by sending that required stamped self addressed envelope or at least the money for postage. It is harder today to run a fan club than it has ever been. I salute these ladies and gentlemen who have taken the time to put out bulletins, newsletters and fan clubs.

CORRESPONDENT CORNER:

Tony Morias, 4512 Chestnut St., Bethesda, Md. 20014 wants to correspond with young ladies that enjoy the sport of pro wrestling.

Superstar Billy Graham fans are invited to write to Michael Lawson, 503 So. Moore Rd., Chattanooga, Tn. 37412.

Chris Scutt of 1357 101st St., Niagra Falls, New York 14504 would like to trade clips, programs with fans from around the world. His favorite is Ric Flair.

Mr. Jack Thompson of 119 Edith Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 would like to hear from fans that have followed the career of gal wrestling star, Vivian Vachon.

Wrestling fans from around the world are invited to drop a line to Mike Baikie, 8727 S. New Land, Oaklawn, Ill. 60453.

Dawn Burton, 14 Ridgedale Rd., Bethel, Ct. 06801 would like to hear from fans all around the wrestling world.

Fans of Rick Morton are asked to write to Debbie, 3869 Patte Ann Dr., Memphis, Tn. 38116.

Girl Wrestlers are asked to write Paul De Pastine, 24 Cambridge St., Providence, RI 02908. Paul has been a girl wrestling fan for years.

Miss Trina Vance of 3621 Leo St., Baltimore, Md. 21226 would like to correspond with fans from around the country and Canada.

If you like the good guys of wrestling then why not write to Robyn Grubb, 1278 Hudson St., Columbus, Ohio 43211.

Nolan Hicks, 316 Linda Ave., Bridge City, Texas 77611 would like to hear from fans in the Mid Atlantic, Georgia, Louisiana areas. Nolan likes Tiger Conway Jr., Killer Karl Kox and Mil Mascaras.

Nick Follo, 1814 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Port Richey, Florida 33568 would like to hear from fans of pro girl wrestlers.

Danny Anderson, 1169 NW 13th St., Boca Raton, Fla. (Apt 8), would like to trade thoughts, programs, clips with fans from around the country.

Frank Andruss, 195 Windsor St., West Springfield, Ma. 01189 would like to hear from fans that have photos of WWF stars.

David Cotterill, 618 Shefford Close, Bradford, Manchester, M11 35P, England would like to hear from fellows aged between 15 and 22 years old that wrestle amateur or professional style. Dave is an active amateur-pro style mat man and is 20 years old.

Kevin Henson, 1708 N. New Hope Rd., Gastonia, NC 28052 would like to purchase any back issues of Mid Atlantic magazines.

Fan club presidents, fans, interested parties wishing to be listed in this column are advised to send their bulletins, newsletters, request directly to me at the following address: Tom Burke, 31 Groveland St., Springfield, Ma. 01108. ■

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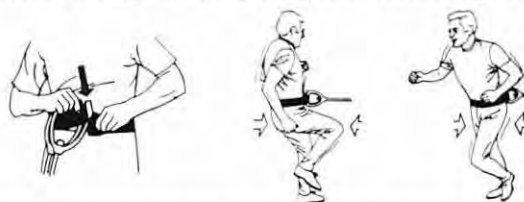
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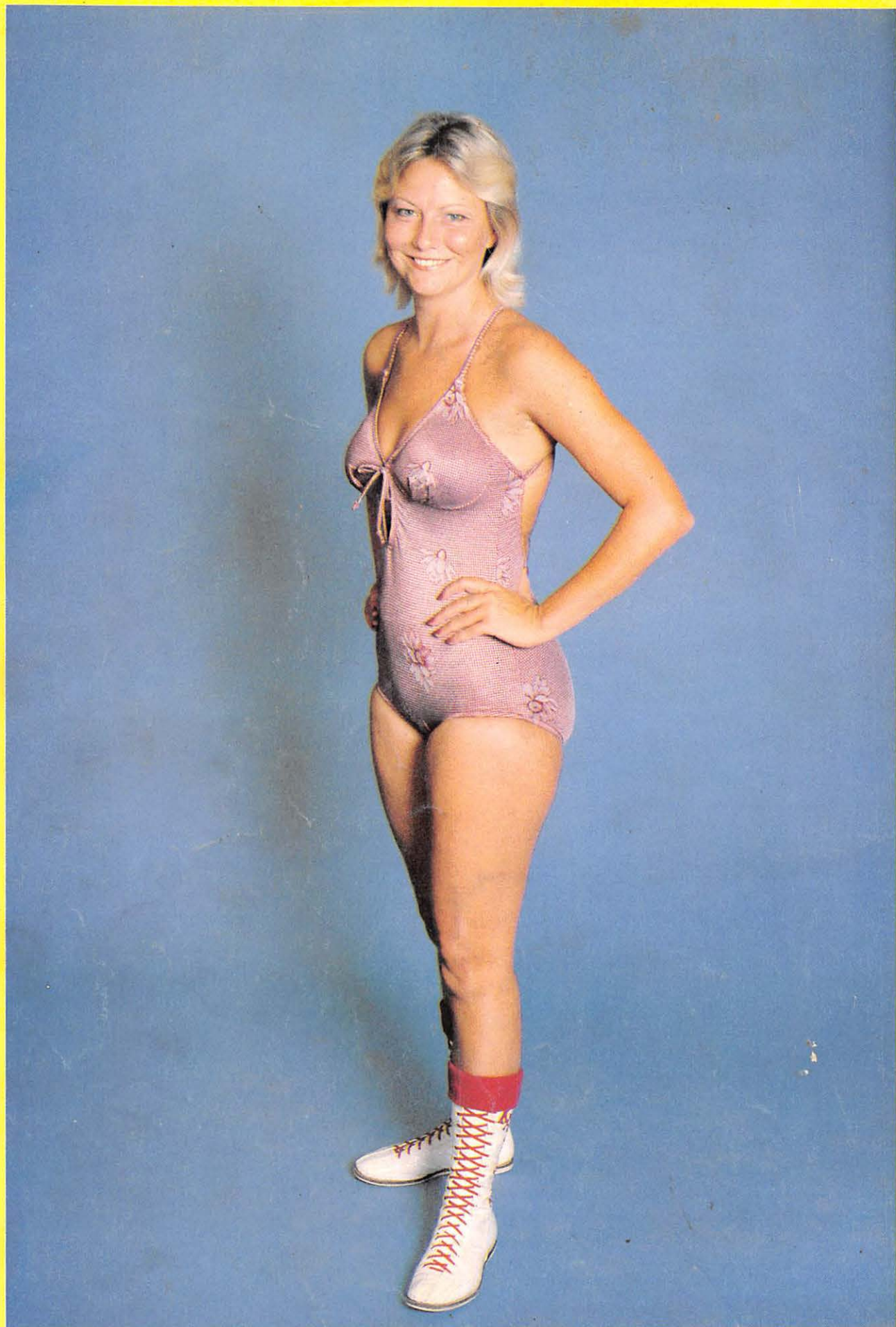
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